



A group of people in northeast Jackson are surprised by a camera's flash in the dark as they frantically dig sand for sandbagging a neighbor's house. They had discovered that their neighbor was in the hospital for open heart surgery and the water was rising toward the unattended house. Many

people told of other examples of real neighborliness and how the disaster was drawing people closer together. Incidentally, the neighbors were of different denominations, but it was Baptist sand they used. It came from the front of the new sanctuary of Colonial Heights Baptist Church.



The Mississippi Baptist Disaster Unit, set up originally on Sunday, April 15 at Pearl Elementary School in Pearl, moved to northeast Jackson on Monday, where it was intended to

stay for the next week. The unit is on the parking lot of Colonial Heights Baptist Church, which had a third of its members, at least 130 families, with flooded homes.

Five Fabulous Sundays Fourth Week Total: 5944

The Baptist Record

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Baptist Ministries Surface Before Flooding Subsides

By Tim Nicholas

The "Mighty Pearl" in its rampage beyond its banks, left all Mississippi Baptist churches dry, but a conservative estimate placed more than 400 Baptist families with flood damaged homes.

Early tallies from just four Jackson churches nearly reached the 400 mark in families with homes under water. Colonial Heights Baptist Church, in one of the hardest hit areas of Missis-

sippi, had counted 140 families, fully a third of its membership, with flooded homes.

Jackson's Broadmoor Baptist Church has at least 100 families with flooding, 75 at Jackson's First Baptist Church, and about 30 at Northminster Baptist Church, also in Jackson.

Dozens more were flooded in the Pearl and Flowood areas and further down river, churches had not yet regrouped by Baptist Record press time to give any accurate estimates.

Baptist pastors with homes flooded included Len Turner of Colonial Heights church, Joe Tuten of Jackson's Calvary church, David Grant of Broadmoor, and the new pastor of Riley Ainsworth, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church in Copiah County.

Though Flowood Baptist Church's pastorage stayed dry, Pastor Marcus Alexander's home, which he was about to move into, was flooded.

A number of church staffers also had

flooded homes, but only two Baptist Building employees had flooding. Judd Allen of the Sunday School Department, and Jean Hastings of the Baptist Foundation.

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Gulfshore Baptist Assembly Is The Place For Leader Training

The training of leaders is a top priority assignment of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, according to Chester Vaughn, board program director.

"One of the best ways for this training to be accomplished," says Vaughn, "is through leadership training weeks at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at Pass Christian.

Vaughn reports that space is still available at most of these leadership conferences in each of four program areas: Sunday School, Church Training, Church Music, and Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries.

There are four Sunday School weeks to choose from: July 30-Aug. 1, Aug. 2-4, Aug. 6-8, and Aug. 9-11.

Two Church Training Leadership Conferences are set: Aug. 13-15, and Aug. 16-18.

The Church Music Leadership Retreat will be July 26-28. And a Pastor/Church Staff Development Conference is set for July 9-11.

For the July 30-Aug. 4, Sunday School weeks, Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., will be Bible study leader and speaker. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bacon of First Baptist Church, Clinton, will be music leaders, with Mrs. Larry Salter of First Baptist Church, Brandon as pianist.

Also on hand will be leaders for individual age group conferences: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marsh of the Baptist Sun-

day School Board, Nashville; Al Foy, also of the Sunday School Board, and Mrs. Judd Allen of Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson.

The second two weeks (Aug. 6-11) will include Brooks Wester, pastor of First Church, Hattiesburg, as Bible study leader and J. B. Fowler, pastor of First Church, McComb, as speaker.

Music leaders will be Mr. and Mrs. David Tyson of Arkansas, with Mrs. Salter as pianist.

Age group conference leaders will include Dennis Conniff III, of the Sunday School Board and Mrs. Allen of Jackson.

The Church Training Leadership Retreats Aug. 13-15, and Aug. 16-18, will include on the faculty Jim Cartwright and Ethel McIndoo of the Sunday School Board as conference leaders.

The Church Music Leadership Week, July 26-28, will include Len Turner, pastor of Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, as conference pastor.

Classes for music leadership in the local church will include separate programs for children's choir workers (pre-school, younger and older children) for church organists and pianists, and special classes for part time and volunteer music directors. Separate classes will be held for full time ministers of music.

Skill Development

The Pastor/Church Staff Development Conference, July 9-11 is designed for skill and leadership development of pastors, ministers of education and youth, church secretaries, kindergarten/day care workers, wives of staff members, and the families of these.

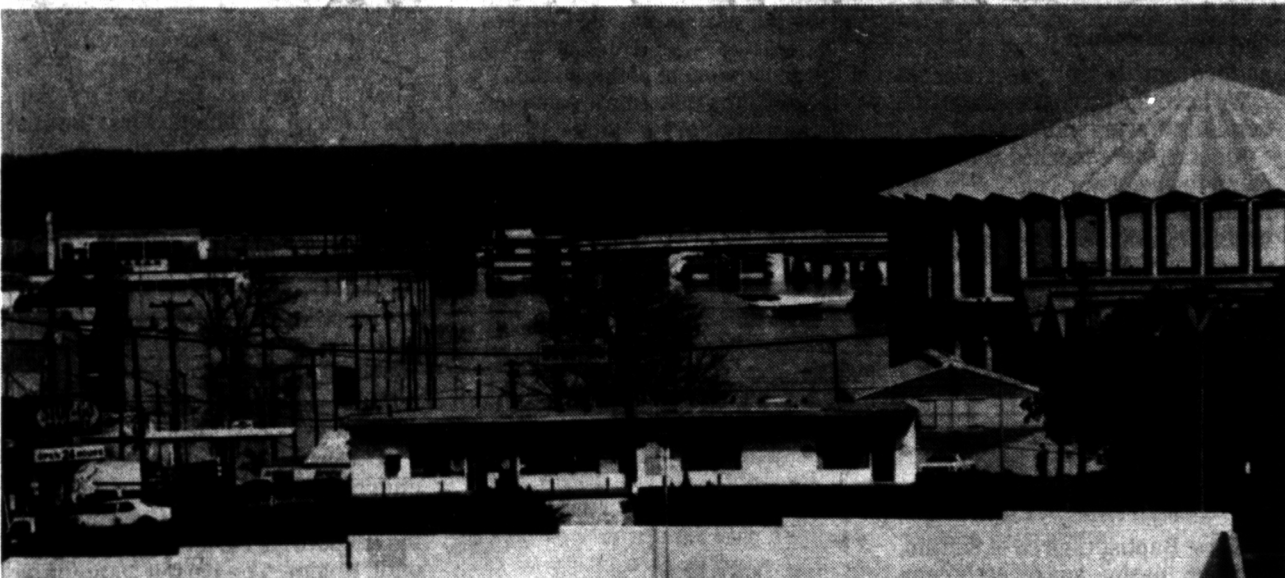
Featured personnel include Harold Shirley of First Church, Talladega, Ala., as Bible study leader with Tom Larrimore as music leader. Conference leaders will be Truman Brown, Will Beal, and Bob Couch of the Sunday School Board, Dot Rieves of Tupelo, Martha Nelson of Pelahatchie, and Macklyn Hubbell of First Church, Cleveland.

For specific information about the individual programs, contact the following convention board departments: Sunday School Leadership Conferences — Sunday School De-

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Volunteers Offer Hot Food

Volunteer Elmo Bounds a grocery owner from Houston offers a plate of hot food to an evacuated resident of Pearl. Another volunteer, Tom Daniel, on Jackson's Alta Woods Baptist Church staff is at Bounds right. (This is at the Baptist Disaster Unit).



This scene is looking east from downtown Jackson toward the coliseum area which got at least six feet of water. The YMCA, farther east, got water into its second floor.

Baptist Volunteers Needed

Volunteers will be needed during the next few weeks for clean-up operations in the flooded areas of Jackson. Available groups should contact David Myers, who serves as disaster relief coordinator for the Jackson area. His address and telephone number: P. O. Box 4686, Jackson, MS 39216; 362-8676.

Professional groups, including carpenters, licensed plumbers and electricians will be needed in the next step of reclamation. David Myers says, however, that persons with technical abilities should write or call him before coming to Jackson. He will keep

(Continued on page 3)

Churches Miss Special Pages Due To Flood

Three churches which utilize the back page of the Baptist Record as a church page missed publication this past week because of flood conditions in Jackson.

The three, Alta Woods Baptist Church, Daniel Memorial Baptist Church, and First Baptist Church, Brandon, should be included this week along with the other regulars which have church pages.

The back page used as a church page is a service of the Baptist Record and

(Continued on Page 2)

Baptists Can Designate Disaster Relief Money

By Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

The flooded Pearl provided Jacksonians with a variety of scenarios: shock, disbelief, terrorism, calm resignation, Christian concern, helplessness, love in action, and tearstained cheeks. For residents of northeast Jackson it was the flood of the century.

I was one of a party of four concerned Baptists who toured the area by boat after the flood waters had begun to crest. Roofs of hundreds of homes reminded me of mausoleums built on the surface of a muddy sea. They resembled headstones marking the watery graves of spring flowers and dead dreams.

The only sound was the gurgle of the ever-rushing muddy current down the streets of a ghost town. The salvaged soggy antiques resting on top of one house seemed a century away from the new electric range lodged in a nearby treetop.

An occasional frantic snake came rushing by as if it were looking for some way to cut off the spigot. An electric yard lamp protruded near the water's edge. It was still burning as a symbol of hope.

We returned to the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Van, now at its second location, to observe a group of trained and dedicated Baptist laymen prepare more than 1,500 hot meals for the evening. This was their second stint of service in four months. The entire operation was a visible symbol of loving ministry in the name of Christ. One man was answering endless phone calls, while another was sending out messages on a shortwave radio.

The Disaster Unit was located on the Colonial Heights Baptist Church property. At prayer meeting time the membership gathered for their first meeting. I slipped into the back of the crowded auditorium to pray for all the flood victims. As soon as I was seated one lady leaned over and said, "We're so grateful for what Mississippi Baptists are doing. Thank you for caring."

Those who presided did so with exuding optimism. Three couples made their way to the microphones and gave radiant testimonies of the blessings they had received as a result of the flood. The homes of all the participants were under water. During the prayer time that followed there was repeated thanksgiving for the love being shared.

I left the church to return to the Disaster Unit with a new sense of gratitude that Mississippi Baptists were allowed to minister to the suffering masses.

The ministry had begun more than a year ago when we built and equipped a Disaster Unit and trained a corps of volunteer workers. Mississippi Baptists had provided \$25,000 through the State Mission Offering to be used

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Equipping Center Clinics Set By Church Training

Short term sessions in Church Training, with modules grouped by needs and interest are a new approach to accomplishing the training function of a church.

Equipping Centers, the name for these newly developed modules, will be introduced in the summer of 1979 by the Church Training Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Material for the Equipping Centers, developed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, will fall into six categories: missions and evangelism, church and community, family life, Christian doctrine, leadership, and Christian growth.

May 7 and May 8 are the dates for interpretation clinics for which training leaders to get a first-hand look at this new curriculum in nine Mississippi cities.

Following are the dates, places, and leaders for the various sessions designed for convenience of travel.

May 7: Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, Bill Latham of the Sunday

School Board in Nashville; First Baptist Church, Tupelo, Jimmy Dunn, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; First Baptist Church, Sardis, Gene Hendrix, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Clinton; and 15th Avenue Baptist Church, Meridian, Hugh Poole, pastor, First Baptist Church, Macon.

May 8: Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Bill Latham; First Baptist Church, Greenwood, Dan Wynn, minister of education, Oak Forest, Jackson; Easthaven Baptist Church, James Webster, minister of education, Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson; East End Baptist Church, Jimmy Dunn; and Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Gulfport, Farrell Blankenship, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg.

Specific modules set for release in July are: "How to Witness, The Bible Speaks to Current Issues, Born Again: The Doctrine of Salvation, The Christian Confronting the Cults, Making Good Marriages Better, Your Home and Christian Discipline, Deacons Training to Minister, and How to Study Your Bible.

Other titles are tentatively set for release in 1980.



Dunn

Baptist Ministries Surface Before Flooding Subsides

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The Mississippi Baptist Convention's Disaster Relief Unit went on the job Sunday April 15 at Pearl Elementary School in Pearl. It was moved to the Colonial Heights parking lot, the next day and remained there, feeding two hot meals each day.

Most days, the number of victims fed by the unit, which was manned by volunteers, was more than 3,000 per day. Cups of coffee passed out were uncountable.

The unit, for the most part has been cooking food delivered by the Red Cross with the Red Cross distributing the cooked food to the various shelters in Jackson. Take out food averaged 1,100 servings per meal, with as many as 4-500 people dropping by the unit on Old Canton Road for food. Unit coordinators were considering closing down early this week.

The Home Mission Board, through its Christian Social Ministries Department, has given the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board a check for \$10,000 for use in aiding flood victims.

A total listing of the contributions of time and labor by Baptist church members would be impossible to obtain, but scores of churches have been participating — from the evacuations to the cleanups.

Valton Douglas, pastor of North Columbia Baptist Church, told the Baptist Record that the church, with a possibility of being itself flooded, organized quickly as waters rose, to get families out of their homes.

The church put a radio in the church van and one in the church building. Douglas went around picking up men who filled the church parking lot. They got several moving vans and went from house to house, getting furniture out.

Douglas said they moved fast. In one 30-minute period, they loaded four

families' furniture and belongings onto the vans. Deep freezers and furniture lined the church fellowship hall.

Douglas said that Bunker Hill pastor David Perry and James Sanders of Oloh Baptist Church in Lamar County, plus several members stayed with the North Columbia church helping people

round the clock. Bunker Hill, 20 miles away from Columbia, opened its activities center to store furniture and house people.

The Columbia Floodplain Nursing Home evacuated its patients to Calvary Baptist Church in Columbia. An announcer at Columbia radio sta-

tion WCJU was reported to have said that the church members were showing the real Christian spirit, not only talking about what they were going to do.

It was the same all down the Pearl River, people helping people.

The children at the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson, gave away colored Easter Eggs (boiled ones) to victims, a switch for the village which is usually the recipient of gifts.

Village caseworker Bob Catlett about knocked himself out hitting a submerged mailbox while in the water stabilizing a train of police boats in northeast Jackson.

A group of neighbors, knowing that a man on their street was in the hospital for open heart surgery, filled and piled sandbags to try to keep water out of his house. The families were of several denominations, but it was Baptist sand, taken from in front of the shell of a new sanctuary being built by Colonial Heights Baptist Church.

Simpson County Baptist Center on Highway 49, began taking in clothing for victims, as did the Baptist Mission Center in Jackson on Whitfield Mill Road. Simpson Baptists' missions committee began organizing resources for use by victims as they begin to move back into their homes.

Hinds-Madison Association's Christian Social Ministries director, David Myers has begun asking for volunteers to contact his office in Jackson if they can help. He asked that professionals such as plumbers and electricians be sure to contact him before planning to come in because of the city's requirements for validating such skilled persons.

Lyon, France — A new Baptist center has been opened in Vaulx-en-Velin, a heavily populated suburb city of Lyon, France, where Southern Baptist missionaries have been working for more than a year. Mark A. and Susan Sutton, Southern Baptist missionaries from Arkansas and Louisiana, began in 1977 with a home fellowship group as an outreach of the French Baptist Church in Lyon.



This is just south of downtown Jackson, looking south down West Street. Water had receded a bit when this picture was taken.



Paul Harrell, Jimmy Smith, and Rusty Griffin serve food from the disaster van. Griffin is disaster relief coordinator and Harrell is Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Director. Smith is minister of activities at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson.

Missionaries In Lusaka Delay Mission Meeting

LUSAKA, Zambia — Southern Baptist missionaries suspended their annual meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, in the face of the bombing of guerrilla headquarters in that city.

Missionaries plan to meet again to complete business of their organization in May when the situation is more

stable. Rhodesian forces bombed the headquarters of guerrillas who are stationed in Lusaka but fight in Rhodesia.

No damage or injuries to missionaries or Zambian Baptists were reported.

Churches Miss

(Continued from Page 1)

Cain Lithographers, printer of the Baptist Record, and consists of the subscribing church having its mid-week bulletin news placed in the Record and sent to every family in the church.

This saves a separate mailing from the church of the bulletin and saves the church secretary (or bulletin editor) a lot of work.

Several other churches utilize the back page including Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson, Jackson First Baptist Church, Grenada First Baptist Church, Briarwood Drive Baptist Church, Ridgeland First Baptist Church, and Tupelo First Baptist Church. Tupelo First, and Hinds-Madison and Rankin associations have back pages once a month.

For further information on this service, contact the Baptist Record or Cain Lithographers in Jackson.

St. George's, Grenada — Baptist churches resumed their regular schedule of services in Grenada after the island-wide curfew were extended until 10 p.m. The curfew came after the March 13 overthrow of the government. Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of the new government has made a public statement guaranteeing religious freedom. Six Southern Baptist missionaries are stationed there.

Hinds-Madison Men Build In California

Twelve men from Hinds-Madison churches left for Madera, California, to serve as building missionaries on August 12, and returned on the 19th. The very first purpose in the minds of each of these men was to serve a Risen Saviour.

The church, a 40 x 100 foot structure, on which these men worked was found to have already been framed, decking on the rafters but no shingles nailed on. As one of the first and certainly the most important accomplishments, was to get shingles nailed on for protection. The group of workers also put up sheet rock, installed window units, and doors, applied some outside siding, plastered the baptistry and built and braced stairs leading into it, and built the choir loft. The remaining jobs were of a general carpentry nature.

Twelve hours of labor by these workers was given the first day; eleven each day thereafter.

The cooperative spirit of church members at this project was excellent. All meals were furnished free as well as homes in which these men stayed.

Pulpits in some churches were filled by men of this group on the Sunday they were in Madera.

Participants were Johnnie Johnson, C. R. Carson, Dorsey Carson, Calvin Carson, Winston Carson, Ronnie Carson, Spurgeon Mayfield, Burt Burleson, Jay Reeves, Charles McKeithen, Kevin McKeithen, and Kyle Carson.

Baptists Can Designate...

(Continued from Page 1)

for just such a tragedy as this.

A quick call to the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention secured another \$10,000 that had been given by Southern Baptist churches for this purpose. Much, much more will be needed because our funds will be depleted before disaster workers can be sent home.

I believe there are many Baptists who want to have a part in helping meet these lingering needs. Any Baptist can have a part by designating money through their local church for disaster relief.

The church will channel these funds to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Every penny will be spent for disaster relief. Our books are audited, and we will give a full report of the disbursement of these funds.

We have the privilege of assisting you in providing immediate relief for human suffering in the name of Christian love and caring Baptists.

All of us were touched when one of the unfortunate victims of the flood came to one of our volunteers with a dollar bill after he had eaten a hot meal. He said, "I know where this money comes from, and because I am a Baptist I want to have a part." Will you add your dollars to his so that all of us can have a part?

Upon This Rock



The First Baptist Church of Saltillo, Rex Yancey, pastor, has recently completed a Church Building Fund Campaign. The victory goal was \$140,000, and the final tabulation of the commitments added up to \$144,649.

The pastor was assisted in this effort by Jeff Land, campaign director; Bill Mears, special gifts; James Easterling, canvass; Roy McNutt, promotion; Beverly Bedford, banquet; Sue Alexander, report snacks; Richard Johnson, follow-up and assistant special gifts; and Jo Land, secretary and sine qua non of the campaign.

A revival following the campaign



resulted in numerous professions and other decisions, a record Sunday school attendance and a high in offerings. The pastor said, "We are riding the crest of a deep-running spiritual movement."

Additions To Revival Listing

Rankin County

Church	Dates	Evangelist	Pastor
Mt. Zion	Apr. 29-May 2	Fred Fowler	Nick Spring

Wayne Association

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Evergreen	April 15-21	Danny Stringer	W. O. Pippens
Strengthford	April 25-28	Gale Anderson	Gale Anderson
Mt. Zion	April 22-27	R. E. Hollon	Harlis G. Martin
Waynesboro, FBC	April 20-22	Ricky Stanley	James R. Hodges
Calvary	May 6-11	John Merck	Alben Gaston
Big Creek	April 22-27	H. L. Davis	Rayford Moore
Buckatunna	April 25-29	Greene Harrell	Dennis Coats
Chicora	April 26-28	Mitchell Smith	Hal Taylor
Pleasant Grove	April 20-22	Graham Hales	Dicky McAllister
Riverside	April 15-20	Robert Jones	M. H. Waltman
Zion Rest	April 27-29		Wesley Slay

Lawrence County

Church	Dates	Evangelist	Pastor
Providence	April 28-29	Ronnie Burch	John L. Carlisle

Jeff Davis

Church	Dates	Evangelist	Pastor
Ebenezer	April 29-May 2	Marty Evans	Ralph Cranford

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Monrovia, Liberia — Tucker N. Calaway, Southern Baptist missionary from Georgia, is now writing a column on Christianity and pertinent problems and questions for "Outlook," a secular magazine in Liberia. The magazine is a "monthly review and analysis of economic, social, cultural and political events in Liberia, Africa and the World," according to its masthead. It is read primarily by young people, Liberian leaders and expatriates.

Madrid, Spain — Baptists in Spain are expressing satisfaction over the peaceful election held recently, according to Indy (Mrs. Charles W.) Whitten, Southern Baptist missionary press representative in Spain. Mrs. Whitten said Baptists held optimism for the future and were praying for the best thing for the country. The Central Democratic Party that has been governing Spain for three years received the most votes.

Colorado Springs, Colo. (RNS) — The Colorado Springs Head Start program, which has been without a sponsor since last November when the city dropped its support, has been taken over by the Colorado Springs Catholic Community Service.

New York (RNS) — Although the U.S. Jewish population has maintained a level 5.7 million figure during this decade, the population seems to be moving slowly toward the Sun Belt. Greater New York, however, maintains a level of nearly 2 million Jews.

Bangalore, India — Evangelizing the 30 million people in the area is one goal set recently by the Karnataka Baptist Sabhegala Samaikya, a fellowship of Baptist churches in the state of Karnataka, India.

Delta State

Will Dedicate

BSU Center

The new Baptist Student Center at Delta State University will hold dedication services Sunday April 29, at 2:30 p.m.

The center is at 903 South Court in Cleveland.

The public is cordially invited by the Mississippi Baptist Convention to attend.

Open House will follow the dedication services.

Sunday School Board President Reacts To Literature Criticism

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptist Sunday School Board President Grady Cothen has reacted to the method used to criticize a misstatement in a February lesson in the "Sunday School Young Adults" quarterly.

Robert E. Lee, a Knoxville, Tenn., pastor and evangelist, said he mailed 4,000 copies of a two-page "indictment" of Sunday School Board literature headlined "Lies in our Literature."

The issue arose around a statement in the February 25 lesson that read: "If a Methodist, a Presbyterian, a Lutheran, a Catholic, an Episcopalian, a Mormon, a Jehovah's Witness and a Baptist were to sit down together around a table to discuss their beliefs, they would discover many differences. But none could disagree with Paul's words in these verses (from Ephesians, chapter 4)."

"No matter what our background or denominational preference, we all believe in one body (the church), one spirit (the Holy Spirit), one hope (the resurrection), one Lord (Jesus Christ), one faith (Christianity), one baptism (public profession) and one God (Yahweh)," the lesson said.

"We would argue about our modes of baptism, our church polity, our governmental structure, and so on. But on these seven points few, if any, would disagree. In fact, they are the basis for worldwide Christian unity."

Cothen replied to the mailout and to a letter he received directly from Lee, interim pastor of the Elm Street Baptist Church in Knoxville.

"There is no question but that we made an error in the 'Sunday School Young Adults' quarterly to which Lee referred," Cothen said. "It is a misstatement, acknowledged by both the author and the editor, to group all those denominations together and say they believe the same thing."

"We regret our error and will renew our diligence in guarding against such occurrences," he said. "To label the honest effort of dedicated people as a blasphemous lie or the encroachment of the devil or liberalism or modernism is a disservice to this institution, to the convention, and to the Lord."

Cothen said the widespread dissemination of information "related to the unfortunate affair" did serious harm to many honest people.

"We produced last year 156 million pieces of material, all of which, insofar as we are able to ascertain, was biblical, Christian, and conformed to the Baptist Faith and Message Statement."

The board president charged that Lee's treatment of an error was improper. "The Christian's responsibility would have been to notify me personally that an error had been made and ask for correction," he said.

"Three members of the Sunday

School Board of trustees live in the same town with Lee, but no contact was made of them or any other responsible person.

"We regret our mistake and will try

again to catch our errors before they reach print. Since we are human I expect that we will fail sometimes, but it will not be because we are trying to depart from scriptural truth," said Cothen.

Five Fabulous Sundays

New Sunday School Members

April 1 Total	1732
April 8 Total	1588
April 15 Total	1586
April 22 Total	1038
Grand Total	5944

April 22:

Adams — 4
Alcorn — 19
Attala — 9
Benton — 9
Bolivar — 4
Calhoun — 6
Carroll — 11
Chickasaw — 8
Choctaw — 9
Clarke — 10
Clay — 8
Copiah — 1
Covington — 2
DeSoto — 34
Franklin — 6
George — 2
Greene — 2
Grenada — 4
Gulf Coast — 63
Hinds-Madison — 100
Holmes — 2
Humphreys — 4
Itawamba — 0
Jackson — 26
Jasper — 10
Jeff Davis — 7
Jones — 50
Kemper —
Lafayette — 19
Lamar — No Report
Lauderdale — 45
Lawrence — No Report
Leake — 14
Lebanon — 82
Lee — 72
Leflore —
Lincoln — 15

Lowndes — 16

Marion — 7
Marshall — No report
Mississippi — 7
Monroe — 21
Montgomery — 3
Neshoba — 7
New Choctaw — 0
Newton — 1
Noxubee — 7
Oktibbeha — 14
Panola — 1
Pearl River — 25
Perry — No report
Pike — 8
Pontotoc — 28
Prentiss — 11
Quitman — 2
Rankin — 37
Riverside — 10
Scott — 9
Sharkey-Issaquena — 2
Simpson — 12
Smith — 14
Sunflower —
Tallahatchie — 0
Tate — 7
Tippah — 24
Tishomingo — 2
Union — 0
Union County — 5
Walsh — 7
Warren — 45
Washington — 24
Wayne —
Webster — 2
Winston — 3
Yalobusha — 8
Yazoo — 3

Mass Choirs Sing At Vocal And Youth Choral Festivals

Frank Stovall of the Southwestern Seminary faculty at Fort Worth, Tex., and Marilyn Mims of Collins were guest artists for the state vocal festival. Fifteen choirs were eligible to attend the state youth choral festival.

The state vocal festival was held March 30 and 31 and the state youth choral festival was held Saturday afternoon, March 31, both at Calvary Church, Jackson. Both festivals were sponsored by the Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, under the leadership of Lloyd Mims, music specialist, and Dan Hall, department director.

Twenty-four participants sang for adjudication in the vocal festival. Each of these sang two solos on Friday night. The top 12 were readjudicated on Saturday morning by the guest artists, Frank Stovall and Marilyn Mims.

Judges' trophies went to John Langworthy of First Church, Pascagoula, and Rachel Roseberry of First, Hattiesburg. Langworthy also earned a \$150 college scholarship by completing all the vocal proficiency requirements.

Superior winners in the Saturday morning adjudication received sum-

mer camp scholarships of \$25 each. They were Karen Wood, Tate Street Church, Corinth; Suzanne Ramsy, First, Clinton; John Langworthy, First, Pascagoula; Laury Lawrence, Alta Woods, Jackson; Rene Jones, Alta Woods, Jackson; and Rachel Roseberry, First, Hattiesburg.

Accompanists for the guest artists were Mrs. Sue Gray and Chuck Endsley, both of Jackson.

Guest artists presented concerts, as well as lectures on repertoire and interpretation for the young singer and demonstrations of vocal technique and literature.

Youth Choral Festival

The 15 choirs that attended the youth choral festival were eligible to attend by having earned superior ratings in their associational festivals.

At the festival the combined choirs rehearsed in a mass choir under direction of Paul Bobbitt, director of the Church Music Department, Florida Baptist Convention Board. Accompanists for the mass choir were Chuck Endsley and Dot Pray.

The choirs each sang two numbers for adjudication by categories: Category A — choirs from churches with resident membership fewer than 500; B

— choirs from churches with resident membership between 500-1000; C — choirs from churches with resident membership of more than 1000; D — choirs whose members are only of junior high age.

After the adjudication and mass singing the judges selected one choir in each category to present one number each in a best-of-the-day concert. The choirs chosen were: Category A — Drew Church, Danny White, director; Category B — Carriage Hills Church, Southaven, Ralph Thomason, director; Category C — First, Hattiesburg, Jim Hayes, director; Category D — Morrison Heights, Clinton, B. T. Robbins, director.

Other out of state adjudicators beside Bobbitt were Jim Gill, consultant, Church Music Department, South Carolina Baptist Convention Board, and Tommy Keown, consultant, Church Music Department, Alabama Baptist Convention Board.

In-state adjudicators included Tim Coker, choral director, Tupelo High School; Wanda Sauls, choral director, South Jones High School, Ellisville; Dick Brown, choral director, Jackson Prep; George McFadin, minister of music, First, Oxford; James Glass, professor at Mississippi College; and Mildred Valentine, professor at Jones Junior College.

The festival concluded with the mass choir singing "Joy in the Morning" by Natalie Sleeth, and a prayer by John Puritoy entitled "Here Am I, Send Me."



At the state youth choral festival the combined choirs rehearsed in a mass choir under direction of Paul Bobbitt, director of the Church Music Department, Florida Baptist Convention Board.



Superior winners in the state vocal festival who received summer camp scholarships of \$25 each were, left to right: Karen Wood, Suzanne Ramsey, John Langworthy, Laury Lawrence, Rene Jones, and Rachel Roseberry.



Frank Stovall, Southwestern Seminary, and Marilyn Mims, Collins, were guest artists for the state vocal festival.

Gulfshore

(Continued from Page 1)

partment; Church Training Leadership Conferences — Church Training Department; Church Music Leadership Retreat — Church Music Department; Pastor/Church Staff Development Conference — Church Administration - Pastoral Ministries Department.

All of these departments may be reached at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or phone 354-3704.

For specific information about reservations for the conferences at Gulfshore, contact Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571, or phone 452-7261.

Reservation deposit requirements, which apply to room and board, are \$15 per person, two years old and older.

Baptist Volunteers Needed

(Continued from Page 1)

their qualifications on file and call them when they are needed.

Due to existing conditions it would be impossible for them to come in and start to work without prior arrangements.

The Missions Task

Greenery And Giving

By Marjean Patterson
Executive Director
Mississippi WMU

From my fourth floor office window I watched with great interest as the woman unloaded fresh boughs of greenery from the back seat of her car and carried them into the chapel of First Baptist Church.

As I paused in my work to consider the drama which I was observing, I wondered how many times women like Mrs. Gladney had cut flowers — or ivy or green branches — from their yards to help add a dash of color to a special session of prayer meeting at their churches.

Somehow the freshness of those boughs lifted my spirits and provided me with a new zest for the task of giving the wonderfully fresh message of Christ to a needy world.

The first of May brings with it an opportunity for WMU folk in the state once more to cut flowers and build beautiful interest centers which will aid in building an atmosphere conducive to worshiping, praying and giving.

WMU Special Day comes each year the first Monday in May. This special season of prayer is designed to make women and girls more aware of some mission projects which are close to the heart of Mississippi WMU. Such items as gifts for all Mississippi missionary appointees, seminary scholarships for missions volunteers from our state, Christmas gifts for all the missionary kids in Mississippi colleges and universities, part of the upkeep on Camp Garaywa and a host of other items.

Gifts sent for WMU Special Day objectives from Mississippi WMUs are received with even more enthusiasm and gratitude than we received the coming of spring.

The goal for the Edwina Robinson WMU Special Day Offering for 1979 is \$40,000.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 29-May 6 | Senior Adult Week (CT Emphasis) |
| April 30-May 2 | Retreat for Baptist Women 65 Plus, Camp Garaywa, Clinton 2 p.m., 30th-noon, May 2 (WMU) |
| April 30-May 2 | Pastors/Wives' Retreat, Camp Zion, Myrtle, 1:30 p.m., 30th-1:00 p.m., 2nd (CA-PM) |
| April 30-May 4 | Children's and Youth Bible Drill State Finals, 4:30 p.m. (CT) |
| | April 30 — Calvary, Tupelo |
| | May 1 — FBC, Winona |
| | May 3 — Temple, Hattiesburg |
| | May 4 — Alta Woods, Jackson |
| May 1 | Day Camp Conference, FBC, Oxford, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (WMU) |
| May 3 | Day Camp Conference, West Laurel, Laurel, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (WMU) |
| May 3-5 | Regional Lay Renewal Training, Ramada Inn, Natchez, 7:00 p.m., 3rd-9:00 p.m., 5th (BRO) |
| May 5 | State Young Musicians Festival, Coliseum, MC, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (CM) |
| May 5 | Day Camp Workshop, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (WMU) |

Northeast JC BSU Employs An Associate

The Baptist Student Union Advisory committee at Northeast Mississippi Junior College has employed Rev. Larry Wimberly as an associate to Joe Cobb, the BSU Director.

A native of Iuka, Wimberly is a graduate of Iuka High School, Northeast Junior College and Mississippi State University.

He has served as minister of music and youth at Wheeler Grove Baptist Church in Alcorn county and is presently employed in the same position at Calvary Baptist Church in Silver Creek, Mississippi.

Working primarily in the outreach ministry which includes the BSU choir, ensemble, youth revival teams, evangelism training, ministry and missions, Wimberly will begin his ministry at Northeast in June.

Wimberly is the first associate employed on a junior college campus. The BSU does not receive any tax money or money from the college, according to Cobb, therefore, financing for this additional staff member must come from the churches and interested individuals in the area. Wimberly will be available to supply or serve as interim in either the preaching or music ministry. He is married to the former Pamela Hall of Corinth.

Doctors And Dentists Will Hear Missionary To Yemen

MEMPHIS — The third annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship is expected to attract about 300 physicians and dentists from throughout the United States to Orlando, Fla., on November 2-4.

Dr. James Young, Southern Baptist missionary to Yemen, has been invited to make the principal address.

Other program personalities include Dr. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary who will lead daily Bible

Don McGregor's Mother Dies

The mother of Don McGregor, Baptist Record editor, Mrs. M. T. (Flora) McGregor, died Sunday Apr. 22, in Texarkana, Ark.

Funeral services were to be held Tuesday, Apr. 24, at Beech Street First Baptist Church in Texarkana, with the pastor, J.W.L. Adams, conducting services.

Graveside services were planned for 11 a.m. Wednesday, at Rose Mound Cemetery, in Waco, Tex.

Mrs. McGregor is survived by her husband, M. T. McGregor, a minister since 1928. From 1948-70 he was director of missions for Hope Association in Texarkana. Don McGregor is the only child.

Also surviving are a sister, Mrs. Florence Edmonds, and a brother, Bryan Welch, both of Waco, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Manila, Philippines — The United Bible Society in Manila, Philippines, recently received a request from Poland for a Vietnamese Bible.

Building Conference Cancelled

The Church Building Conference at First Church, Horn Lake scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, has been cancelled. The church has not yet accepted the building from the contractor, eliminating any use of the building.

Eight millimeter sound movies of First Baptist Church, Natchez, are available for churches interested in multi-use buildings. Contact Dennis Conniff, church architecture consultant, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for further information at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or phone 354-3704.



The handbells group practices on the set they bought to give to missionaries in Spain. Left to right: Danny Jones, Rick Munn, Farley Earnest, Lloyd Mims, Graham Smith, Ray Burke, Gary Gregg, J. M. Wood, George McFadin, and the director, Perry Robinson.

Singing Churchmen Will Take Handbells To McNairs In Spain

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen, planning a European tour May 14-29, voted to raise money for a set of handbells for John and Kathy McNair, missionaries to Spain and native Missisippians.

In the photograph, the handbells group practices on the set they bought and will leave in Spain at the end of their tour. These Malmark Handbells, a three octave set, retails for \$2,500. First Baptist Church of Brandon adult choir gave the largest single gift to

ward the purchase. Brandon is the McNairs' home church.

The European tour includes 28 members of the 96 member Singing Churchmen, plus a guest conductor, Leroy Yarbrough, New Orleans Seminary music professor.

The group will be singing in West Berlin, Paris, and five cities in Spain: Madrid, Jaen, Granada, Malaga, and Cordoba.

Dan Hall is director of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen.

MAY, 1979	
Sunday School	SUNDAY SCHOOL PLANNING FOR 1979-80 Plan a Sunday School Council Retreat. (See Outreach magazine, May, 1979)
Church Training	SENIOR ADULT WEEK, MAY 20-27 Schedule May 20-27 as Senior Adult Week. Observe Sunday, May 27, as Senior Adult Day in the church. Include participation in Senior Adult Convention, May 21-23, at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly as part of church emphasis. CONDUCT A COMPLETE INREACH SURVEY Purpose: to determine if new training groups or departments should be started and to re-study the leadership needs of the church. This should be done before the Church Nominating committee begins its work. Of course, if new groups or departments need to be started now or new leadership needs to be enlisted for the present organization — do it.
Church Music	FAMILY SING SERVICE A congregational "sermon in song" that would be especially effective during Christian Home Week (Sunday or Wednesday evening.) Another service may include a choir composed of families. HAVE A "RECOGNITION SERVICE" FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS HYMN OF THE MONTH "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #216.
Woman's Missionary Union	WMU SPECIAL DAY AND EDWINA ROBINSON OFFERING, MAY 7 Prayer program for special items of interest to members of WMU plus offering to make possible these special activities. Program material mailed from state WMU office in mid-March.
Church Administration - Pastoral Ministries	REMINDER, MAY 1 Order literature for July, August, and September. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE SELECTS AND ELECTS CHURCH PROGRAM LEADERS Purpose: Elect early in order to train and plan before they take office. PROMOTE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE OFFERING Every church increase its Mother's Day Offering by 15% for Children's Village.
Christian Action Commission	OBSERVE CHRISTIAN HOME WEEK Consider suggestions mailed in the packet from the Baptist Sunday School Board. Consider using the Family Enrichment Series books.
Stewardship	SUMMER STUDY Plan use of study course books during the summer. Encourage the study of "OUR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM." REMINDER Order a stewardship materials catalog from SBC, Stewardship Services, 121 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234, and plan for the use of these materials. Schedule a mid-year "Tithers Enrollment Week" or "Stewardship Revival."

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

As The Waters Recede . . .

Lift Up The Needy In Prayer

An eerie quiet pervaded downtown Jackson last week; but it was broken time and again as police sirens wailed, and convoys of police cars, dump trucks, escorted by motorcycle officers or patrol cars, roared down the almost empty streets carrying dirt for levees.

A fierce battle was going on as men and machines fought to hold back the relentless movement of water continuing to rise higher and higher until it had gone more than five feet above what had ever been recorded before.

Much as with a retreating army force, the men and machines were outdone early, and many, many people were hurt. They finally established a line of defense, however, and it held.

By that time water almost surrounded the heart of the city and spread over thousands of acres of suburban areas. It was the worst flood in Jackson history with a crest of 43.25 feet.

Downtown Jackson was sealed off, and Baptist Record personnel and the

workers of Cain Lithographers, the printer, were able to continue work by virtue of having police passes through the checkpoints. The big battle going on downtown was the effort to save the electric substation supplying much of the power for the core of the city.

None of the Baptist Record staff suffered damage from the flood. For this we are grateful, but that is not the point of this piece. Some in the Baptist Building were not so fortunate. As this was written the flood had passed Jackson, but it left a path of destruction unequaled in our city since Union forces burned it during the Civil War. It left many homeless. At least 15,000 were evacuated. Many were Baptists; but the hurt and the misery are the same, regardless of the religious conviction.

And as this was written, the flood was on its way south — to Georgetown, to Monticello, to Columbia, and to other towns and cities. Perhaps those people were more fortunate by having more time to prepare, but they are feeling the same suffering and the same frustration by this time that

their Jackson neighbors felt earlier. And while attention in Jackson has been focused on Jackson, it is evident that the flood waters had to come from somewhere, and the path of destruction was just as devastating for those they touched as they made their way to this city.

And the Pearl was not the only river out of its boundaries. So the entire state is in some degree of shock.

The Mississippi Baptist disaster unit is in action aiding the efforts of the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and thousands of volunteers to try to give some relief. People who were recipients of the ministry of the disaster unit were high in their praise for its work and its efficiency. We are thankful that Mississippi Baptists have seen fit to provide such a ministry for such times when people are helpless and hurting and in anguish.

As fine as that ministry is, however, and as commendable as are the efforts of the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and others, there is something more that every one of the victims needs to an even greater degree, and it is well

within the power of each of the others of us to supply for them. That is to take them and their needs to the Throne of the Lord in prayer. Let none of us be negligent at this point. To fail to petition the Lord in their behalf would be an omission of the most serious order.

As I stepped into the shower this morning, I realized that I had hot running water, I had a functioning refrigerator with food in it, I had a stove to cook on, and I expected my car to start. My clothes were all dry.

Two weeks ago there were thousands of people in Mississippi with those same situations. Now they are all gone for many of them.

My church, Pinelake in Rankin County, was in revival last week in the Rankin Association Assembly Building at the reservoir. The building was made available as a refugee center, and several families were being housed there during the revival. I talked to one man who had seen his home and all the belongings of his family completely covered by the flood.

His only hope, and he fully recognized it, was in the Lord. — DTM

Children's Village . . .

Annual Clothing Emphasis

We hope readers make a part of their readership the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village material that is in the Baptist Record once a month. Rather than mailing out its own publication each month, the Village takes a half-page ad in the Baptist Record. The Village pays the regular advertising rate for Mississippi Baptist institu-

tions and finds this less expensive than publishing and mailing its own publication.

We feel this is good stewardship, and we would call your attention to it. The material usually is printed in the first issue of the month.

In this month's ad Executive Director Paul Nunnery has called attention

to the annual emphasis at the Village called Dress a Child at Easter. Though Easter Sunday has just passed, it is not too late to be a part of the effort to provide these children with adequate clothing.

Mississippi Baptists have accepted the challenge of providing for these

children. We have no choice but to face up to our responsibilities. It is not likely that more clothing than is needed would be provided, so let's try to be sure that at least as much as is needed is provided.

These children look to Mississippi Baptists for their continued well being.

Guest Opinion

The Biblical Background Of Ordination

By Wayne Ward

Part One of a Four-Part Series

The practice of ordination to the Christian ministry, like many other rites in Christendom today, has developed far beyond anything which can be found in the Bible. Later articles in this brief series on ordination will trace the historical development and the wide variety of form and meaning which can be found within the Baptist denomination and the whole spectrum of Christian communions. It is the purpose of these two short articles on "Biblical Background" to find the scriptural roots of the contemporary practice of ordination, especially as it is found among Baptists, and to bring those biblical teachings to bear upon our present practice in such a way as to enrich its meaning and correct it where necessary.

Ordination and the Laying on of Hands

The one consistent outward sign which runs through all ordination practice is the ritual of prayer and the "laying on of hands." The one persistent inner meaning or purpose, among all Christian groups, is the "setting apart" or "solemn appointment" of one to the office and function of Christian ministry. It may be helpful to trace these two concepts through the scriptures and see what light they may throw upon our understanding of ordination.

The Laying on of Hands: Old Testament

To Bestow a Blessing

In the Old Testament, the most ancient and hallowed meaning of the ritual of "laying on hands" was to

bestow a blessing, usually of an old or dying father upon his son. It was often accompanied by a prayer for divine blessing or a prophecy of divine favor upon the son. So Jacob blessed the sons of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasse, as his death approached (Gen. 49:28-33). Isaac could not even withdraw the blessing which had gone to Jacob by deception, when it rightfully belonged to Esau (Gen. 27:35).

Nowhere in the Old Testament can be found the most common function of the "laying on of hands" in the Gospels and the New Testament: laying hands on the sick for healing. There is the indignation of Naaman the Syrian when he expected Elisha to come and lay hands on him to cure him of his leprosy but instead was told to dip in the muddy Jordan (II Kings 5:11). In a kind of ancient commentary on Genesis, found in the first cave at Qumran, Abraham is described as laying his hands on Pharaoh for healing (IQ Genesis Apocryphon 20:28); but the Old Testament text contains not one instance of healing by laying on hands.

To Establish a Personal Connection or Relationship

The most frequent use of the ritual of the laying on of hands in the Old Testament is expressed by the Hebrew word, *Semikah*, which means the "resting of the hands," upon the sacrificial lamb for the burnt offering (Lev. 1:4; 8:18; Ex. 29:15; Num. 8:12), upon the meal offering (Lev. 3:2,8,13), upon

the guilt offering (Lev. 8:22; Ex. 29:19), or upon the sin offering (Lev. 4:4,15,24,29,33; 8:14 and many others).

In a ritual that somehow transferred the sins of the people to the scapegoat, the priest laid hands upon the animal and drove it away into the wilderness (Lev. 16:21). At the very least these acts portrayed in sign and symbol the identification of the worshiper with his offering. They probably carried a deeper meaning: the belief that something of the person (e.g. his sin) could actually be transferred mysteriously to the sacrifice, which was consumed by fire, or to the scapegoat which was taken far away into the wilderness, never to be seen again.

Installation in Office of Leadership

The most direct connection with the contemporary practice of ordination is seen in the public act by which Moses transferred his authority (Hebrew, *Hod*) to Joshua by laying on him his hands, in the presence of Eleazar the priest (Num. 27:18-23). Joshua was described as already a "man in whom is the spirit" (Num. 27:18), but Moses was told to invest him with some of his authority in order that he could lead the people when Moses was gone. This was a ritual carried out before the congregation of Israel to validate Joshua as their new leader.

This passage exerted a profound influence on later Judaism; and, in the Mishnah (contemporary with the apostolic period), the Rabbis cited this very passage as they ordained a young

man into the rabbinate. After many years of study of the law, a candidate was examined by the chief rabbi and two assistants (two or three witnesses). If he had achieved the required proficiency, they laid their hands upon him and ordained him as a rabbi (Sanhedrin 1:3; T. Sanh. 1:1). This probably influenced the later Christian requirement that three bishops must participate in the ordination of a priest. It certainly influenced the later Christian practice of ordination to ministry only after a careful doctrinal examination by a council of ministers, or ministers and their deacon assistants. Also, it is extremely likely that the limitation of the participants in the ceremony of laying on hands to those who had, themselves, been ordained was influenced by this early Jewish practice. Such a limitation runs counter to the widespread practice in both Old and New Testaments, where the entire congregation was involved in laying on hands (Num. 8:10; and, apparently, Acts 6:6).

The Levites, likewise, were installed in their sacred office by a complicated ritual which included the injunction: "When you present the Levites before the Lord, the people of Israel shall lay their hands upon the Levites" (Numbers 8:10). All the congregation participated in this act; and the Levites, in turn, laid their hands upon the heads of the bulls which were offered as a sin offering and a burnt offering to the

(Continued on page 5)

Letters To The Editor

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

It seems that a first offense would sentence a violator to attend a short driver improvement program. After that, is it presumed the guy is so far gone he can't learn? Heaven forbid! Alcoholics Anonymous have had the answer for many years. In this day and time, people have to drive a car; therefore, they can't drink. How will the government help to eradicate alcoholism?

What will Mississippi do with its financial allotment for the treatment of alcohol abuse under the federal law recently passed by Congress? Should not the new state laws be made to conform with serious plans for the treatment of alcoholism? Can a judge sentence a drunk driver to counseling in an Alcohol Abuse Clinic? — by that name — DON'T confuse this man with dope addicts or mentally ill people. He is afflicted with an illness caused by POISON legally sold as a beverage. And for the notation of psychiatrists, that is the reason he drinks, because of

its availability.

Under the new program, Public TV should carry advertisements to show how Alcoholics Anonymous works as demonstrated, how members exert their own strength with dependence on God, whom they call their Higher Power, to help them stop drinking; how they study together, step by step, and how they help each other, how AA can be a lifesaver to the family — and listen to this as most important: When a member slips and does get drunk, he has brothers in AA who are on call to drive him, not home to raise hell or to the police station for punishment as a criminal, but it can be to the prospective Alcohol Abuse Clinic, which should have overnight facilities for medical care and intensive treatment, as needed to provide motivation for re-entry to AA.

Ideally Alcoholics Anonymous, whose members are functioning, voluntary participants, has provisions like a clubhouse recreational center where members can drop in for coffee,

soft drinks, and lectures by preachers to help keep them in touch with their Higher Power, as many of these people are not church-goers, but the basis for cure is God's help. However, this is a private club, and it should be remembered even by the judge who sentences a patient for treatment that one name in the title AA is "Anonymous," and privacy can play an important role in the restoration of self-respect.

Above all, federal money should be used under the Alcohol Abuse program to directly assist the patients in getting and keeping their JOBS. Thus the clinic, rather than hospitalization which could only interrupt employment. This patient must continue to function while under prolonged treatment.

An appeal is made here to our lawmakers that the \$1,000 fines they contemplate should be placed directly upon those who SELL alcohol. According to the percentage of their sales, it is known that a certain number of victims will require treatment.

Name Withheld by Request

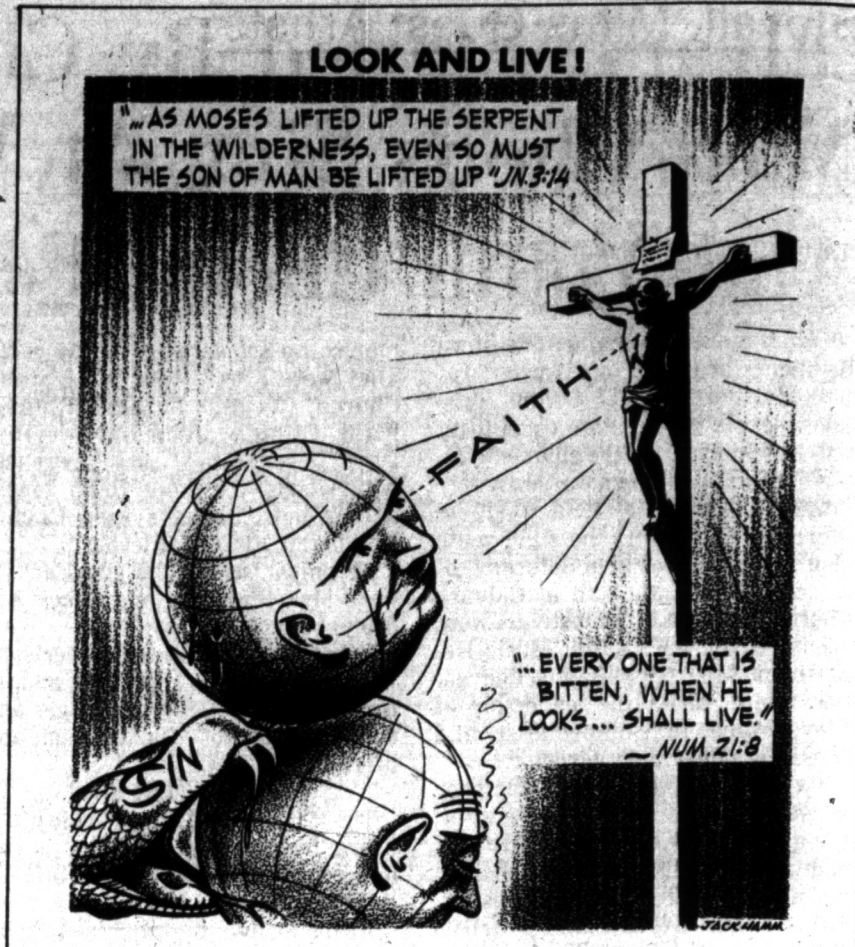
Kermit McGregor, my pastor at Morrison Heights in Clinton, listed in the church bulletin six lessons we might learn from the flood:

1. Life is more important than a house. 2. Life does not consist in the abundance of things. 3. Life on earth is uncertain. 4. A natural disaster can happen quicker than we ever imagined. 5. God can get glory out of the tragedy if we praise Him. 6. God surely will lead us to help those who are unfortunate victims."

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	S	A		E	R	R		D	R	A	E
R	I	B		S	L	O	E		R	A	L
T	A	R		E	L	L	S		E	N	T
	A	J	E	A	L	O	U	S	G	O	D
N	A	H	O	R		L	T	S			
E	L	A	M		L	I	V	E		G	O
R	A	M	A		E	R	E		F	O	R
O	N	S		E	N	I	D		R	O	N
			A	L	T			M	E	D	S
M	E	N	O	F	I	S	R	A	E	L	
A	C	E	R		L	E	R	A		A	D
T	H	A	T		E	A	L	E		N	E
H	O	R	A		S	A	V			D	E

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation" (1 Pet. 2:9).



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Victim Recalls Flood

The Baptist Building was closed Friday afternoon before Easter, and Jean Hastings, office secretary for the Baptist Foundation, used her half-holiday to do her laundry. She was looking forward to having her daughter Cindy home from Mississippi Southern for the weekend. Not listening to radio or TV she was unaware that a flood was on its way to Jackson.

By Sunday afternoon the water was nearly up to the top of her house at 335 Allstate Drive, off Old Canton Road near Colonial Heights Church.

As she hung out clothes Friday afternoon she noticed some men in a neighbor's yard watching water in a drainage ditch, and talking about how swiftly the water was rising.

Her son Alan, 16½, came home from Manhattan School, and her husband Ray came home from the State Highway Department where he works in the Photogrammetry Section of the Roadway Design Division.

About the time of the 6 o'clock news report Friday, Ray said, "Call Hugh and ask him to bring his truck right away." Jean's brother, Hugh Fonville (Jean is a former Fonville who grew up in Lexington) got there by 9 that night and the Hastings family started packing.

"The first things I got were my children's pictures off the wall. I knew they could never be replaced. Then I tried to be practical. At first I thought we would just be away for the night, so I packed a suitcase."

"But then she was told to get more, so she emptied Alan's clothes closet, got some of her clothes and Ray's, the best linens, the curtains from Alan's room. She brought in the clothes she had washed and stuffed them in plastic bags."

Hugh and Ray loaded the best furniture in the truck — the upholstered pieces, the living room tables, the dining table. Then when they had placed some objects on high shelves they went to spend the night with Ray's mother, Mrs. Nellie Wilburn, who in February moved into a mobile home at Homewood Manor on North State Street. Cindy had come home from college, but spent the night with another family.

"We kept hearing reports Saturday morning that the river would crest soon and the worst would be over," Jean recalls. Saturday afternoon they returned to the house to pack the remaining furniture up on cement blocks. "The Cox Construction Company was out there helping people, giving away concrete blocks to set things on. We thought then we would be all right — until the announcement that water would be let out of the reservoir."

Easter Sunday morning — here you see the caliber of Jean's faithfulness to

her church — she went to Sunday School at First Baptist, where she is director of the Eighth Grade Department. "I hadn't notified a substitute," she said, "so I felt like I needed to go."

By the time she got her mother-in-law's station wagon and drove back to Allstate, the street was flooded and water was in the house.

"Everybody was helpful," she remembered later. "Some Ridgecrest laymen, Ray Dearman and Lloyd Thornton, and some others, brought several boatloads out for us and took them to store at Ridgecrest Church." Hugh took the truckload of furniture to Stuart Irby's Warehouse (where he works) in Vicksburg.

Jean named different ones who helped and repeated again and again how grateful she was for that help. Mike Deschant, a neighbor, and a friend of his from Crossgates, brought out a boatload. Colonial Heights people came to her aid, including Jim Crosby, a deacon and neighbor.

"I saved most of my books. I feel really so lucky. We got so many things out, more than a lot of others did." But she said they had no flood insurance.

They stayed at Mrs. Wilburn's for several days, and then Chester and Evelyn Vaughn invited them to move into the apartment in their house at 821 Winthrop Circle.

Jean mused, "This Easter weekend taught us a lesson. I heard a woman say that it has helped us to put first things first — to find out what really belongs first. It put THINGS in their place, and we learned they are not really the most important."

She and Ray went to prayer meeting at Colonial Heights Church on Wednesday night. The pastor, Len Turner, and many of the members had flooded houses. The preceding week a revival had been held at the church. Now the disaster seemed to have drawn the people closer to each other and to God.

At the prayer meeting Jim Hitt told the others, "We have been praying for revival for a long time, but we had no idea it would come under these circumstances."

Jean showed me a paper distributed by the Red Cross, telling how to clean flood-damaged homes — what to do about the floors and walls, the food and water, the electricity, the salvageable furniture. "Now I dread going back," she said, "and finding snakes."

Judd Allen, consultant in the Sunday School Department, who lives at 175 Beechcrest, had almost two feet of water in his house. He and his wife moved into their son David's apartment on Ridgewood Road.

In the flash flood on Thursday, April 12, Nell Vaughn Burnett, who retired from the Baptist Record staff in December, had several inches of water in all the rooms of her house on Meadowlane.

Kermit McGregor, my pastor at Morrison Heights in Clinton, listed in the church bulletin six lessons we might learn from the flood:

1. Life is more important than a house. 2. Life does not consist in the abundance of things. 3. Life on earth is uncertain. 4. A natural disaster can happen quicker than we ever imagined. 5. God can get glory out of the tragedy if we praise Him. 6. God surely will lead us to help those who are unfortunate victims."

Calvary, Started By Children, Celebrates 30th Anniversary

The first of "Five Fabulous Sundays" set apart for April, was launched on a high note at Calvary Columbia, as the church observed its 30th anniversary.

Activities were under direction of the pastor, James E. Walker, with James Rutledge of Nettleton, guest speaker for the morning service.

Rutledge designates himself as one who went from "Prison to the Pulpit." After imprisonment, he became a pastor.

Special music was given by the choir under direction of the interim minister of music, Donald Winters of William Carey College. Marvin Polk, a charter member, read a brief history of Calvary Church, which had its beginning 30 years ago in a ball park, a few blocks from the present site.

Special emphasis was given to making the final payment on the church bus with the morning offering. As a result, a note burning ceremony was held with Pastor Walker and Buford Ashley, Chairman of Deacons, participating. The bus was bought in March, 1976 for more than \$20,000.

A luncheon was held in the Fellowship Hall with more than 200 attending. A "Singspiration" was held in the sanctuary with special music by various groups from the area.

The history of Calvary dates back 30 years, with "A little child, (or children) leading them." A group of school children, boys and girls, sons and daughters of Christian parents, met on a vacant lot, "The Old Field," to play ball after school. At the conclusion of the games the children read scripture and had prayer. This went on for some time until one day the parents were invited for the game and concluding programs.

Realizing the interest and intent of the youngsters, the parents saw the need in that particular community for a church. Plans began through group singing and prayer in the nearby homes, with from 30 to 35 attending.

The parents obtained possession of a nearby oak grove, had it lighted and bleachers placed, where prayer services continued in the summer and in the homes in winter, all on a volunteer basis and by free will offerings.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Roper, Christian leaders in the town, noted the interest and gave their services in helping. A revival was wanted and Roper provided his tent for that purpose, with John Trent conducting the services. As a result of this revival, the church was organized on April 3, 1949, with Trent as the first pastor.

The original name, "Open Door Baptist Church" was changed to Calvary and has maintained the name since.

A stucco building belonging to First Baptist Church, was given to the group they began meeting in it for the first time, April 6, 1949.

In 1954 a new church building was launched.

From May, 1969 to September, 1970 plans were discussed and drawn up for a new Sanctuary, (the present one), at a cost of more than \$200,000. To date this indebtedness is less than half expired.

Walker moved to Calvary from a 13 year tenure in First Church, Florida. Much progress has been made since he came in March of 1975. The church is represented by the pastor in a five minute time slot over Radio Station W.F.F.F., each Tuesday at 11:55 a.m.

Walker has served as moderator for Marion Association. A few months ago he was invited by the Shell Oil Company to have a service on their rig some 100 miles south of New Orleans out in the Gulf.

It has been from ball park, oak groves, tent and stucco buildings, and then to the beautiful sanctuary, a plant with a valuation of some \$455,000, little by little from 26 charter members in 1949 to 500 resident members today.

Salt Lake City (RNS) — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) has prepared a discussion guide for missionary work among Jews. The Church has prepared a flip chart, five tracts, a "Missionary Training Manual for Use in the Jewish Proselytizing Program," and a pamphlet containing testimony of Jews who have joined the Mormon Church.

MasterControl's* 20th Year

Tennessee Ernie Returns To Help Celebrate

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Tennessee Ernie Ford, who was featured on the first "MasterControl" radio program in 1959, will return April 29 to help celebrate the show's 20th anniversary.

"I'll never forget the first 'MasterControl' program," Ford told "MasterControl" interviewer Jim Rupe. "And two years later I came back on Mother's Day and you even invited my mother to be on the show. She remembered it until the day she died."

"MasterControl" is a weekly production of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. It's aired by more than 960 stations.

Ford's first hit record was his own composition, "Milk 'Em In The Morning, Feed 'Em, Milk 'Em In The Evening Blues." When the record was released, Ford was singing Saturday nights for \$25 at an American Legion Hall in southern California.

"Can you believe it? I thought they were overpaying me," he told Rupe.

In 1956 he starred on his own nighttime variety television show. But producers were a little leery when he announced he wanted to close each program with a hymn.

"They felt the hymn would bring the audience down. But I told them, 'Wait until you hear it and see those faces light up. We're not going to put on sack cloth and sit in a pile of ashes. We're going to smile and be happy.'"

So Ford got his hymns. During one performance after he sang "Just A Closer Walk With Thee," the audience gave him a standing ovation. "We didn't even have to hold up the flash card or turn on the light," he chuckled.

Ford still is most often remembered for his hit song, "Sixteen Tons." It sold a million copies in 21 days. "I think I was the only singer to ever snap my fingers on a record at that time," said Ford.

Ford added that he always hoped people would remember him as a person who cared. "I mean every song I sing and I hope the public sees that. I'm very thankful to God that I was able to use my talent to sing of Him. That's something I've never taken for granted."

Other highlights of "MasterControl's" 20th anniversary programs will be excerpts from early shows featuring Bob Hope, Michael Landon and former astronaut James Irwin.



Debra and Del Aven

Mother-Daughter Team Collaborates On Book

UNIVERSITY, Miss. — Like mother, like daughter.

At least that's the case with Del and Debra Aven, mother and daughter writers, artists and teachers who collaborated on the children's book, *God Has Special Places*, released Jan. 2 by Broadman Press.

The book, for children kindergarten through third grade, describes a small girl who through the experience of visiting grandparents in the country and the arrival of a new baby brother learns of God's love and care.

Years of shared interests — the paintings on the walls of their backyard Oxford studio are the work of both women — led naturally to their collaboration on this book.

Debra, a graduate student in design at the University of Mississippi and a Sunday school teacher at Oxford's First Baptist Church, often illustrates her lessons as a way "of creating Bible stories before the children's eyes."

Mrs. Aven, a former elementary school teacher who has written for several religious publications, sent Debra's portfolio to her editor at Broadman Press. Most of Broadman's book illustrations are done by staff artists, but after looking at examples of Debra's work, the art director offered her a contract to be the illustrator of her mother's book.

As research for her Master's degree thesis, Debra is writing and illustrating two children's books — one for slow learners and the other for gifted children. Both books will tell the biblical

story of Jonah and the whale. Her thesis will be a comparison of the two approaches.

Debra earned six hours of university credit as an art therapy instructor at the North Mississippi Retardation Center. Part of her undergraduate work with the Lafayette High School's Gateway Program, an accelerated studies program.

"Having worked with children with different levels of ability, I knew what they could deal with before I started the texts. By nature, I'm a teacher," she says, admitting, however that she'll always be interested in freelance work as an illustrator.

At 23, she is already a successful free-lancer. Several hundred examples of her work decorate markers along the Natchez Trace. She is a portrait and wildlife artist and a designer of Christmas cards and calendars. Her work has been published in several state magazines.

Her mother was the 1975 winner of the children stories category of The Mississippi Literary Arts Festival and is the wife of Russell E. Aven, professor of chemical engineering at Ole Miss.

Deland, Fla. — Foreign missions came to bat at Stetson University here, when J. Bryan Brasington, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board staff member, was inducted into the Stetson Sports Hall of Fame. Brasington, former wingback on Stetson's football squad and professional baseball player, was among six "athletic stars of bygone years" to be honored.

Names In The News . . .



Danny Ashley, left, Steve Bates, center, and Dale Sauls, right, have been licensed to the gospel ministry by Richland Church, Hwy. 49 South in Richland. Danny and Steve are students at Mississippi College and Dale is a student at East Texas Baptist College. Paul B. Williamson, Jr. is pastor.

Gallman Church (Cophia Association) has licensed Matt Adams, the church's director of music and youth, to the gospel ministry. Adams, a student at Mississippi College, is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Charles W. Adams of Dover, Del., where Adams is pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church. Matt will be serving in the BSU summer missionary program in the Virgin Islands. Charles E. Abbey is pastor of the Gallman Church.

Antonina Canzoneri, missionary to the Bahamas, has completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box N 8154, Nassau, NP, Bahamas). Born in Fort Worth, Texas, she grew up in Jackson, Miss.

Earnie Sumrall has been ordained to the gospel ministry by Hickory Grove Church at Sumrall. Eddie Hamilton, pastor of First Church, Sumrall, delivered the sermon. Others on program were Jim Beck, David Townsend, James Yates, and H. L. Fewell, the Hickory Grove pastor. Sumrall, a junior at William Carey College, has been called as pastor of Riverside Church, Monticello.



Sumrall

Bethlehem Church, Laurel, in Jones County, ordained John Stewart to the gospel ministry in a service on April 8. Piave Church has called Stewart as pastor. Warren Rush, Bethlehem pastor, preached the ordination message. Others taking part in the ordination service were R. R. Gordon, Thomas Balch, D. C. Jenkins, and Bert Breland.



Phillip Ray Bradley, left, minister of music and youth of Red Bluff Church, Folsom, La., was ordained to the gospel ministry on March 25 by Oakdale Church, Mobile, Ala., Rodney Taylor, pastor. His father, M. R. Bradley, pastor of Westlawn Church, Mobile, preached the ordination sermon.

Bradley attended Mississippi College, graduated from Mobile College and is now enrolled at New Orleans Seminary. He has been a member of the singing groups, "Trust Company" and "Genesis 1:1," and has served as minister of music and youth at Rock Hill Church, Brandon, and Oakdale. His wife is the former Terri Martin of Michigan. David Harbeson, at right above, coordinator of Christian Social Ministries, Mobile Baptist Association, presented the Bible.



Allen

J. P. Allen, head of the Radio and Television Commission's counseling department for almost 10 years, will retire April 30. — Radio-TV Commission Photo



STUDENT AND ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES from Mississippi met recently on the Southwestern Seminary campus in Fort Worth. With state alumni president BILL BALLOU (row one, center) of Jackson are (row one, left to right) David Raddin; Ballou; SHELLYN GRESHAM; (row two) RICHARD JACKSON, president-elect of the National Alumni Association; FRANK POLLARD, pastor of the First Church of Jackson and president of the National Alumni Association; and Seminary president Russell H. Dilday, Jr.



EIGHT NORTHEAST JUNIOR COLLEGE STUDENTS served as missionaries during a mission trip to Daytona Beach, Fla., March 12-16, sponsored by the Baptist Student Union. Joe Cobb, director of the organization, said the students were chosen on the basis of their personal contributions to BSU and/or their potential leadership ability. Pictured are (kneeling, left to right) Lissa Gamble, Baldwin; Debbie Davis, Booneville; Pam Turner, Sallito; Darlene Chandler, Mantee; (seated, left to right) Ken Daniels, Tupelo; Greg Davis, Dumas; and Don Caldwell, Sallito. Not pictured, Mike Hughes, Marietta.

Clarke To Honor Carters

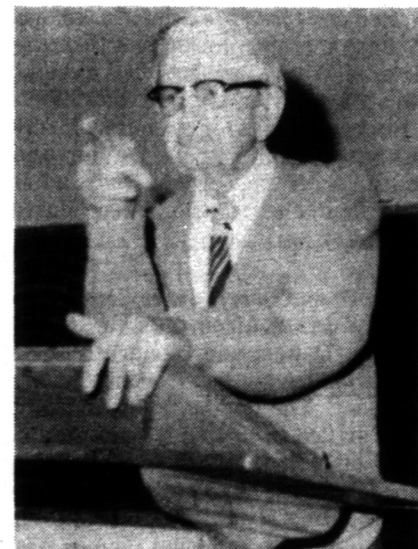
A. C. Johnson, acting president of Clarke College, has announced that John F. and Mattie Carter Day will be held on May 25. Carter, longtime professor of Bible at Clarke, is now in his 91st year and he and Mrs. Carter have lived in Newton following his retirement. He is still active in preaching and serving in the Newton area.

"During his 40 years of service with the college, Dr. Carter has influenced the lives of hundreds of men and women and has been instrumental in encouraging young men training for the ministry," said Johnson.

The Carters' two sons, John Carter and Henry Carter, and their wives, have established a scholarship in their parents' honor. The scholarship is given each year to a freshman ministerial student.

Johnson said, "Dr. Carter retired from teaching two years ago after many years in the classroom, and during that span of time touched the lives of countless hundreds of people with his wonderful Christian testimony, both in and out of the classroom. It seems fitting and proper to honor this great Christian man and his devoted wife and to recognize them for their contributions to so many lives along the way."

Invitations to participate in this event have been mailed to a wide cross-section of people. Anyone not receiving an invitation, but desiring to join in the event may contact A. C. Johnson at Clarke College.



John F. Carter

Ray Grissett's Father Dies

Andrew Grissett died in Hattiesburg Tuesday night, April 17. He was the father of Ray Grissett, consultant in the Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The funeral was April 19 at Moore's Funeral Home in Hattiesburg, with John E. Barnes, Jr. officiating.

Survivors include Grissett's wife; one son; one daughter; and three grandchildren.

Ordination Background

(Continued from Page 4)

Lord (Num. 8:12). Evidently, the ritual conveyed from the people to the Levites the authority to act on their behalf in presenting the offering unto the Lord.

Laying on of Hands; New Testament

Laying on Hands for Healing

The most dramatic shift in the New Testament usage of this term is the sudden appearance of it in the Gospel as the regular means by which Jesus healed the sick. Jairus asks Jesus to come and lay hands on his daughter "so that she may be made well" (Mark 5:23). Jesus "takes her by the hand" in raising her from death (Mark 5:41), since the little girl was pronounced dead before Jesus reached the house (Mark 5:35). A deaf mute was brought to Jesus with the petition to "lay his hand upon him" (Mark 7:32). Jesus "put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue," opening his ears to hear and loosening his tongue to speak (Mark 7:33). He lays his hands upon the blind man of Bethsaida in the process of healing him (Mark 8:23). The convulsive boy whom the disciples could not heal was lifted up "by the hand" of Jesus (Mark 9:27). The woman "bent over" for 18 years was made straight when Jesus "laid his hands upon her" (Luke 13:13). The summaries of the healing ministry of Jesus by the Evangelists include the words "and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them" (Luke 4:40) or "he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them" (Mark 6:5).

This same healing ministry is carried on by the apostles in the name of Jesus, either by their hands or even by the shadow of Peter falling upon the sick as they lay on their beds in the street (Acts 5:12,15). Ananias lays hands upon Saul (Paul) that he may receive his sight (Acts 9:12,17). Paul heals people by laying on hands (Acts

19:11; 28:8).

For the later practice of ordination, it is most significant that the act of "laying on hands" was either the sign or means by which the power of God became effective in the lives of those who were being healed. In addition, it is of striking importance that the apostles who were commissioned to carry on the ministry of Jesus (not just the Twelve, but also Paul and, apparently, many others) were enabled to exercise this power through the laying on of their hands.

Laying on Hands for Blessing

In a beautiful echo of the Old Testament blessing of the first-born son, we see Jesus blessing all the little children which are brought to him by "touching them" (Mark 10:13), taking "them in his arms" and blessing them, and "laying his hands upon them" (Mark 10:16). It is probably very significant that, unlike the Old Testament practice, Jesus blessed all the little children without discrimination by birth order or sex.

Bestowal of the Spirit at Baptism

Although the Holy Spirit of God is free and not subject to manipulation by any ritual, it is also important to note that Peter and John laid hands on the Samaritans who had previously been "baptized in the name of Jesus" and "they received the Holy Spirit" (Acts 8:16,17). The disciples in Ephesus, who had been baptized only by John's baptism, were "baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" and, when Paul "laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied" (Acts 19:5,6). As if to emphasize that God is not limited or controlled by any ritual, the Spirit also comes upon believers without the laying of hands (Acts 2:1-13; 10:44-48). Although the Spirit of God comes in sovereign freedom upon whom he will, these scrip-

tures show that the laying on of hands may be the sign or means by which the Spirit is bestowed.

Empowering for a Particular Ministry

The "seven men" in Acts 6:3-6, sometimes called "deacons," but not so designated in the text, were chosen by "the whole multitude" (Acts 6:5), set before the apostles (6:6), "and they prayed and laid their hands upon them" (6:6). The antecedent of "they" is not absolutely clear, but probably it means the whole congregation who chose them and laid hands upon them, after the analogy of the whole people of Israel laying hands upon the Levites at their consecration (Num. 8:10). If it is only the apostles, then the apostles are simply acting to confirm the choice of the whole congregation; because it is absolutely clear that the whole congregation was asked to "pick out from among you seven men" and they chose them and brought them to the apostles.

In Acts 13:1-3, a group of "prophets and teachers" in the church at Antioch is told by the Holy Spirit to "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." After "fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off" on what we call the first missionary journey of Paul. This is quite different from Paul's call and commissioning as an apostle, which took place on the Damascus Road; it also differs from the laying on of hands by Ananias at Paul's healing and baptism. This is a specific empowering and authorization, not to some ecclesiastical office, but, by the Holy Spirit, to a particular evangelistic mission.

In a subsequent article we shall look further at the biblical texts on the matter of "setting apart" or "solemn appointment" to religious office as a vocation. The results of this study of "laying on hands" will be summarized and applied to ordination in that article.

Just For The Record



GROUND BREAKING was held April 1 at RIVERSIDE CHURCH, Waynesboro, for an education building. Members of the congregation, Pastor M. H. Walmon, and members of the Building Committee were on hand to break the first layer of soil. The building will be of brick veneer with seven classrooms, kitchen, two restrooms, storage room, and assembly room. Building Committee members include Ervin Stevens, chairman; Mrs. Homer McIlwain, Mrs. Alton Pippens, Delo Ezell, and Marvin Farrior. Trustees include Rolston Davis, E. A. McGrew, and Delo Ezell. The pastor stated, "This building is needed, for we have more enrolled in some classes than the present room can seat. The members of the church plan to do some of the work and to pay as we build. Some have expressed a desire to give memorial gifts and some of their labor; therefore, a special building fund has been established." The building will be constructed on a portion of an acre donated by Norvel Mills.

Bethesda Church, Crawford, will observe homecoming Sunday on April 29. Wayne Long, a former pastor, will bring the message at the 11 a.m. service. Long is pastor of First Church, Lambert. Special music will be brought at the 1:30 service by the Buckners. There will be a lunch served at 12.

Bowlin Church, Attala County, has set goals of 50 in Sunday School and \$1,000 for the offering on Sunday, April 29. It will be Building Fund Day and all offerings will go toward the retirement of the debt on the church's new annex, according to Walter E. Hines, Jr., pastor. Sunday School will begin at 10 and morning worship at 11. Lunch will be served in the church annex.

Bethany Church presented a cantata Sunday morning, April 8, entitled "Hallelujah, What a Saviour." The director was Marty Evans, Jr.; narrator, W. V. (Bucky) Burgess, Jr.; soloists: Marty Evans, Jr. and Brent Davis; and musician, Pam Harvey. Both adult and youth choirs participated. Marty Evans, Jr. is pastor.

Freedom Church, Jones County has received a letter from the state Sunday School Department congratulating them for having a "Growing Sunday School." The pastor, Billy Ingram, was invited to sit in a special section with other pastors of churches being recognized at the state Evangelism/Bible Conference at Meridian. Also Freedom Church was congratulated by the state Stewardship Department for a substantial increase in world missions through the Cooperative Program during the last five years which amounted to a 300 percent increase.

Bethlehem (Jones) set a goal of \$1500 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Both goals were reached, the Lottie Moon Offering being \$1619 and the Annie Armstrong being \$1579. Warren H. Rush is pastor; Mrs. Larry Hess is WMU director.

"The Deacons of Morgan City Church view their role as more than just figureheads," says the pastor, D. Glenn Simmons. They realize they are to be leaders in service for Jesus Christ."

Each was responsible for either a revival service or a cottage prayer meeting during the church's Good News Mississippi revival. Beginning on Wednesday, March 28, the deacons were placed in charge of the services. Sunday was High Attendance Day in both Sunday School and Church Training, with goals twice the weekly average of the previous year. Not only did the deacons do most of the preaching, but several assisted in giving testimonies in song, and one led the singing throughout the revival.

"Each deacon was asked to use the various gifts of the Spirit he had received," the pastor said. "Thus not every one of the deacons was required to preach, but every one was responsible for contacting another lay person to bring the message."

"One of the benefits of this revival was the spirit of unity that seemed to permeate each of the services," added Simmons.

The Sanctuary Choir of Prentiss Church presented an Easter concert Saturday night, April 14, at 7:30 p.m.

The theme of the program was "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked." "Crown Him With Many Crowns" was the processional. Kayron Berry then sang a tenor solo, "Were You There?" In baritone, Randy Grim sang "Behold The Man."

Marsha Grim, soprano, then acclaimed "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth."

The choir sang "Lord We Await Thy Coming" (adapted from The Seven Last Words of Christ.)

Officers of the Sanctuary Choir are Kayron Berry, president; Hiram Williams III, vice president; Bobbie Foster, secretary-treasurer; and Marie Little, librarian.

David Michel is pastor.

First Church of Louise will have homecoming day on May 6. Bill McLellan, pastor, states that all members, friends, and former members are invited to this first annual memorial event. Activities, which will begin at 10 a.m., will include Sunday School, worship service, fellowship, and dinner on the ground. Former pastors present will speak.



THE CONCERT CHOIR OF MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE, under direction of Jack Lyall, toured in Mississippi and Louisiana Apr. 23-25. First Church, Biloxi; Florida Boulevard Baptist Church in Baton Rouge; and at New Orleans Baptist Seminary. The Concert Choir, the official touring choir of the college, is selected by audition only. Its repertoire includes master works of choral literature which have become sacred classics. The choir, consisting of 50 members from six states, was featured at the final session of the 1978 Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Church, Politics Go Together Says Mississippi Politician

By Jerilyn Wood
JACKSON, Miss. (BP)—Christians have a responsibility to influence the direction of politics, according to Mississippi state representative and Baptist pastor Horace Buckley.

"As a preacher, I view my ministry as a way to seek economic, social and political salvation as well as spiritual salvation for my members."

Buckley, pastor of Cade Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, said he "strongly believes that every church should realize its responsibility as an institution in the community and strive to promote truth and liberty."

"The church should be the voice that helps identify the problems of the community it serves and then helps organize strategies to eliminate these

problems," he said. Buckley told the student representatives from 90 colleges and 20 states that throughout the history of blacks in America, the church has been the traditional meeting place and speaking forum for them in the community.

"Through the church, individuals have the opportunity to view politics close up and participate in parliamentary procedure. It can provide good educational helps," he said.

Regarding the question of church involvement in political affairs, Buckley said, "Personally, I trust the judgment of Christian, church-going laymen more than many politicians who are presently involved in the problems now confronting us."

He encouraged the college students to lend a hand in their communities and local churches and provide new enthusiasm and energy.

"I would hope that each church you represent would take an active part in helping to eliminate the present problems surrounding them, and you can be a participant by knowing your community, understanding its needs, responding to those needs and then providing future hope and knowledge," he said.

Staff Changes



WAYNE BARBER assumed his duties as pastor of First Church in Lexington on April 1. Barber moved to Lexington from North Fork Church near Frankfurt, Ky. Shown from left are: Steven, 5, Mrs. Diana Barber, the pastor, and Stephanie, 8.



BUNKER HILL CHURCH, Marion Association, recently elected Joe Loftin as activities director. He succeeds Danny Wilks who has served in this position for three years. Loftin and his wife Doncie, will be in charge of the activities at the Family Activity Center as well as the softball programs of the church. Wilks was presented a certificate of appreciation by the pastor, David Perry. Left to right: Loftin, Wilks, and Perry.

L. Wayne McCullar of Tuscaloosa, Ala., has accepted the call of First, Crystal Springs. He and his family will begin their ministry with the church on May 20. McCullar has pastored churches in Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, and Texas. His theological studies have been done at Southern Seminary of Louisville, Ky., and New Orleans Seminary. McCullar graduated from University of Montevallo in Alabama and received Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in education and counseling guidance psychology from the University of Alabama.

Other members of the McCullar family are his wife, Nancy, a speech pathologist, and their children, Brandon, 7, and Maggie, 4. McCullar succeeds A. Estus Mason who retired from First Church, Crystal Springs, in October of 1978 after 24½ years as pastor. Harold Kitchings has served as interim pastor.

Walter H. Davis has been called as minister of music and youth of the Colonial Hills Church in Southaven.

Robert H. Rogers, of Petal, became pastor of Harpersville Church, Harpersville, April 1. He and his wife, Joyce, have three children, Bob, Todd, and Nancy. A candidate for a master's degree, from the University of Southern Mississippi, he is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. Rogers New Orleans Seminary. He has served 11 years as an active duty National Guard chaplain. Overseas tours of duty were in Korea, Germany, and Vietnam.

Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Tegucigalpa, the 400-year-old capital of Honduras, now has a three-story Baptist building. It houses a Baptist bookstore, a book deposit, and the offices of the Honduras Baptist Convention and of the Honduras Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries).

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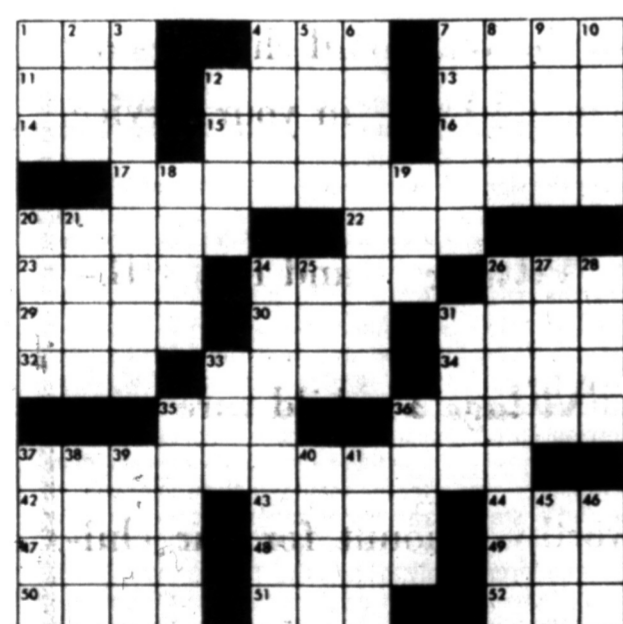
Glen Allen, Mississippi

plans to dispose of material and equipment in its old building. Among the many items are 18 pews and a matching set of platform chairs and pulpit, all less than 10 years old; six stained glass, non-memorial windows, sash type; Rheem central air conditioning unit; gas central heating unit; space heaters; and several window units.

The church requests sealed bids by May 15 and reserves the right to refuse any bid it considers too low. Material and equipment list may be obtained by calling Kirby Love, 839-5511 days or 839-6401 nights or Bob Smith, pastor, 839-2405.

Bible Puzzle

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ACROSS

- 1 Idol destroyer (1 Ki. 15:13)
- 4 "causeth to — from the words" (Prov. 19)
- 7 "— high to God" (Jas. 4)
- 11 Kid
- 12 Blackthorn
- 13 Lung sound
- 14 Feather's complement
- 15 House adjuncts
- 16 — on point
- 17 "is —" (Ex. 34)
- 20 Man (Gen. 11:27)
- 22 Lights: abbr.
- 23 Edomite duke (Gen. 36:41)

- 24 "shall — by faith" (Gal. 3)
- 26 Battle site (2 Sam. 21:18)
- 29 Place (Matt. 2:18)
- 30 Before
- 31 Goller's word
- 32 "priest of —" (Gen. 41:50)
- 33 Oklahoma town
- 34 Lepcha
- 35 Altitude: abbr.
- 36 Present at Pentecost (Acts 2:9)
- 37 "Ye —" (Acts 2)
- 42 Maple genus
- 43 Ogile
- 44 August
- 47 The other

CRYPTOVERSE

LFS NY EOY E HZXMYC DYCVOESKXC
E OXNEQ JOKYMSZXXR EC ZXQN
CESKXC

Today's Cryptoverse clue: X equals Y

Answers on P. 4

Fields Will Speak At Yazoo City

The 1979 homecoming at First Church, Yazoo City, will feature as the guest speaker a former pastor who served the church from 1951-1956. Wilmer C. Fields of Nashville, Tennessee, will highlight the activities scheduled for Sunday, April 29.

Fields, a native of Louisiana, resigned as pastor of the Yazoo City church to serve as Editor of the Baptist Record, from 1956-1959.

Fields presently lives in Nashville, Tenn., where he is assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations for the Southern Baptist Convention.

He will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 29. This service will also feature special music by the Sanctuary Choir and soloists. Following the morning worship service, "dinner on the ground" will be served.

At 7 p.m. the Music Ministry, under the direction of Mrs. James A. Henley, Jr., will present a musical extravaganza. This program will feature all the choirs of the church, Preschool, the Music Makers, the Young Musicians, the Youth Choir, and the Sanctuary Choir. Soloists, ensembles, a church orchestra, and the handbells will also be featured.

The pastor is James F. Yates.

Lakemba, New South Wales — A group of Spanish-speaking Baptists from several countries have been using the premises of the Lakemba Baptist Church for some months, for an evening worship service. The Lakemba church has organized a Spanish-language Sunday school for adults on Sunday mornings, while children of the parents who attend share in the departmental activities of the church's regular Sunday school. The language fellowship is moving toward affiliation with the Baptist Union of New South Wales, possibly in May, 1979, the Australian Baptist reports. — EBPS

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7. It is consistent with the Baptist faith and message statement.
8. It has theological soundness.

- What Are The Benefits Of This Curriculum?**
1. This curriculum studies each book of the Bible until it is finished.
 2. This curriculum is well written.
 3. The additional teacher aids are very beneficial.
 4. In addition to the teacher's and pupil's quarterlies there is a fine individual commentary.
 5. The fact that Bible study is its purpose comes through clearly to the people.
 6. This curriculum provides learning exercises which are easily implemented.
 7. The series is very practical in its application.

The Lord's Authority

(NOTE: This lesson is the second in the series on the book of Mark. The first one prepared by J. Roy McComb was delayed in the mail during the flood and was not received in time to be printed last week.)

Mark 4:35-5:43

I. Authority Over Danger (4:35-41)

On this particular day Jesus had been very busy. At the close of it rather than leave the ship they began to cross just as they were. They took Him with them just as He was. Jesus was very weary. He had been preaching and healing throughout the entire day. Once they were out in the lake He lay down and went to sleep.

In the midst of the lake, with Jesus in the boat, a storm arose. Storms were not unusual on these lakes. The Sea of Galilee is notorious for its cyclonic storms.

It seems to me that this event, recorded in these verses, is really a parable of life. The storm represents the circumstances in which one frequently finds himself. It would be useful to point out that although Jesus was with them the storm still presented grave danger for them. It is false for Christians to believe that since they are Christians no danger will ever come upon them. Danger did come upon the disciples in the middle of the Sea of Galilee with Jesus in the same boat with them. Their response was similar to ours. The circumstances frightened them and quickly they began to rebuke Jesus.

It is not uncommon for our circumstances to cause us to criticize our Lord. Jesus was sound asleep and did not hear the wind and the thunder but He heard immediately the cries of His disciples. He arose and stilled the storm. After He had calmed the storm and the danger was over then Jesus rebuked His disciples. "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" He asked.

Someone has said that Christian faith should be like a kite. The stronger the wind the higher it soars.

II. Authority Over Demons (5:1-20)

In chapter 5, we see the Lord in relationship to demons, disease and death. Jesus crosses into the country of the Gadarenes. I summarize these verses:

1. A Miserable Soul, 1-5
2. A Mighty Saviour, 6-10
3. Mad Swine, 11-13
4. Mixed Sensation, 14-17
5. A Meek Servant, 18-20

The concept of demons plays an important part in Mark's gospel. Mark does not hesitate to give record of Jesus' encounter with demons. Mark has no difficulty with the personalization of demons. Today it would be debated whether or not these demons were really persons or just simply a mental or emotional state that existed in the person.

This story is filled with gladness and sadness. The gladness of it is that Jesus never overlooks the need when He finds it. He finds a man who is both homicidal and suicidal. He meets this man's needs. The man is healed. His mind and his spirit, his soul and his body are cleaned and he is made well.

The sadness is seen in the response of the people. They are told of the miracle Jesus performs on the man by taking the demons from him and sending them into the swine. The people respond in fear and ask Jesus to depart. Countless numbers still fear Jesus and beseech Him to depart. They are afraid that fellowship with Jesus may occasion some social, financial or personal loss. They seek to save their possessions while losing their personal souls.

Note the four prayers in this lesson, the demoniacs, verse 10; the demons, verse 12; the Gadarenes verse 17; the healed man verse 18. Observe that Jesus answered the two prayers of His enemies to the letter but not in the spirit. Then observe that He denies the prayers of His friends in the letter but not in the spirit. The word of Jesus to the healed demoniac is applicable to us today. "Go home to your families and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how He has had mercy on you." It is doubtful that we can improve on this command.

III. Authority Over Disease (5:21-34)

This account is divided into two sections: 1. A Desirous Father, 21-24, and 2. A Distressed Woman, 25-34.

The Gadarenes on the eastern side of the lake had urged Jesus to depart. The people on the western side were anxious for Him to return. The problem is not with the Saviour but with the sinner. What a welcome He received when He returned to Capernaum. A synagogue ruler named Jairus came to Jesus in behalf of his little daughter. Notice how Jairus came. He came reverently, passionately, purposefully, urgently, prayerfully, believably, and openly. When one is earnest in behalf of another no price is too great to pay. Some parents, like Jairus, are unable to bring their children to Jesus but they can bring themselves to Jesus in behalf of the child. Is there someone in your family who needs to be brought to Jesus? Are there ones in your family for whom you need to come to Jesus in their behalf?

The two stories of Jairus and the sick woman are two halves of a whole. In the first story the individual is a man and in the second a woman. He came for his child, she for herself. He was well to do; she was poor. He came openly; she came secretly. He asked for a blessing; she wanted quietly and unnoticed to receive one. Both got what they needed.

Jesus is the need — fulfilling Saviour. A crowd milled about Jesus. It is interesting to note that many thronged Christ at this time but only one touched Him. It causes me to wonder if this is not the case today. Many people seem to be interested in Christ but few seem to be inviting Him to become their Saviour. Read carefully this passage and note the woman's need, disappointments, hope, effort, contact with Jesus, faith, reward, fear; assurance, confession, and salvation.

IV. Authority Over Death (5:35-43)

The incident with the distressed woman had temporarily arrested Jesus' attention. When Jairus had left his home his daughter was at the point of death. Now he receives word that she is dead. The synagogue ruler must have had anguish inexpressible upon hearing this news. The delays of Christ are often very perplexing. However, His delays are not denials; they are discipline.

Quickly Jesus gives assurance to the ruler. He said, "Fear not; only believe." He stilled his fear and strengthened his faith. The synagogue ruler's servant suggested that they should not trouble Jesus any longer since the child was dead. Sometimes when the greatest trouble comes we propose to trouble Him no more. We give hospitality to some strange ideas. It is in the midst of our greatest trouble that the conqueror of all troubles is ready to come to our assistance.

What a scene we are privileged to see when Jesus arrives at the home of Jairus. The professional mourners are there weeping and wailing. Jesus says, "The girl is not dead, only asleep." They immediately begin to ridicule Him and laugh at Him. He sends them out. Only seven are left in the room, including the dead girl. The lifeless form of a dead girl is upon an eastern bed. The broken-hearted ruler and his wife, Peter, James, John, and most of all Jesus, make up the seven.

Then death receives a deadly blow. Jesus gives simply instructions and death runs from the body of the child. The child is alive at the words of the Master. What a miracle! What mercy! What marvel! The Lord indeed has authority over danger, demons, disease, and death. God works for them who wait for Him.



Clarke Group Prepares Cookbook

Members of the Ministers' Wives Fellowship at Clarke College have compiled a CLARKE COOKBOOK with recipes collected from administration, faculty, staff, and student wives. The obvious reason is to share favorite "tried and true" recipes. The other purpose is to secure donations for the Summer Student Missions fund at Clarke. A goal of \$2200 has been set by the Baptist Student Union with over half the amount already having been secured. The gifts that are given as cookbook donations will help to reach the goal. A minimum gift of five dollars has been suggested. Information about securing cookbooks can be had by contacting BSU Director J. B. Costlow or MWE Advisor Jean Jacobs. Left to right are Carolyn Smith, Ruth Bailey, Cheryl Jones, Renee Ward, Jill England, Judy McCord, Alethea Puryear.



Miss Mississippi College

Janet McMurray (center), a sophomore from Pascagoula, was crowned the new Miss Mississippi College at the March 31 pageant, a preliminary to the Miss America Pageant. Runners-up included from the left, Patricia Pace, New Orleans, La., 3rd; Jan Clark, Kosciusko, 1st; Janet McMurray; Sarah Mullens, Mendenhall, 2nd; and Vicki Kuykendall, McComb, 4th. Miss McMurray also received the talent and scholarship awards. She is the daughter of Clark McMurray, pastor at First, Pascagoula, and Mrs. Murray.

Seminary Trustees Elect Culpepper, Seek Funds

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP). — Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a \$3,143,884 budget for 1979-80, elected Robert H. Culpepper as professor of theology and joined in a kick-off conference for the 28-year old school's \$3.5 million capital and endowment campaign.

Culpepper, professor of theology at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka, Japan, since 1953, will join the Southeastern faculty late in the 1979-80 academic year. A Southern Baptist missionary, Culpepper is presently on furlough in the United States, but will return and complete his responsibilities in Japan before coming to Southeastern.

The Tifton, Ga., native is a graduate of Mercer University and holds the bachelor of divinity and master and doctor of theology degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as pastor of churches in the U.S. and was instrumental in the founding of two Japanese churches.

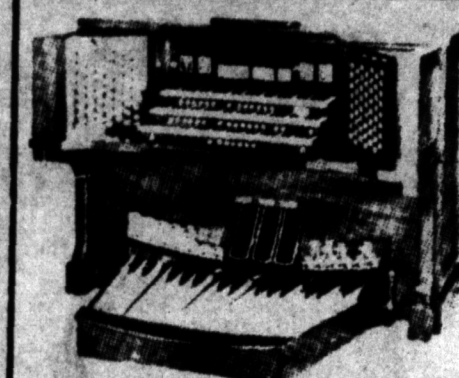
During their semi-annual meeting, the Southeastern trustees joined the seminary's Development Council, faculty, staff and friends in a kick-off leadership conference for the school's \$3.5 million campaign. The fund-raising effort will extend over three years and seeks gifts from Baptists and others.

Projects in the effort include \$1.5 million for endowment and \$2 million for new student apartments and renovation of several buildings in the recycling program of the seminary's campus, located on the former 145-year-old campus of Wake Forest College.

Trustees also heard a report that \$287,372 had been pledged to the campaign to endow a professorship in evangelism, heard a report on record gifts of \$52,788 for 1978 by Southeast-

E. J. Daniels Rally To Be In Pascagoula

E. J. Daniels, evangelist from Orlando, Fla., will be the guest speaker at a rally at the Calvary Church, Pascagoula, Monday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m. Daniels is seen on his Sunday morning TV programs, and has conducted crusades in Mississippi. Assisting in the rally will be soloist Paul Showers, country gospel singer, and John Bos, native of the Netherlands, organist and pianist. The evangelist has announced that he will speak on the subject, "The Secret of Success in Life." He said, "The Bible contains the key to success in every realm." The public is invited, according to Byron Mathis, pastor.



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Meridian, 15th Avenue Dr. Hugh Poole

May 8

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P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, Ms. 39213
(601) 922-2242



Gulfport Men Clear Site For Popp's Ferry Chapel

First Church, Gulfport, had a work day recently to clear the site of its new mission, The Popp's Ferry Baptist Chapel. Pastor Jim Keith led the group as they made preparation for the two double trailers that will furnish temporary worship and education space. The mission is located on Popp's Ferry Road in North Biloxi. Pictured are: front, Olan Rayburn and Scott Keith. Back, left to right, Jim Keith, Chaplain Lonnie Knight, Dickie Fletcher, J. W. McMurray, Wayne Wilson, Earl Wall, Allison Douglas, Fred Lewis, Fred Signs, Norman Stank, Bill Elzey, and Ralph Shaw.



Liberian President Decorates Older Women, Devoted To WMU

The Executive Board of the Woman's Missionary Union of Liberia recently held a special service to recognize a number of its older women who

Margaret Fairburn, right, presents a crown and a kiss to Mrs. Nora Wayne, left of Liberia. Miss Fairburn, a native of Tylertown, Miss. and a graduate of Clarke and Mississippi College and Golden Gate, is stationed in Monrovia as Woman's Missionary Union director for the country.

have served the Lord devotedly through the WMU Convention.

Among these was Nora Wayne, who has attended the annual sessions of the WMU and the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention for 17 consecutive years. Mrs. Wayne lives in the interior of Liberia where, until eight years ago, she could only reach Monrovia, where the meetings have usually been held, by plane or boat, or on foot.

Of the women to be included, there were 21. Most are no longer able to attend the Convention, or even to attend their own church services regularly.

President Tolbert decorated Nora Wayne on behalf of the State, not only for her service to the Baptist Convention, but to her country and to the nation. He also decorated ten of the other women. One of these was Elsie Brown, former President of the WMU of Liberia.

A Certificate of Recognition was given to all 21 women, along with a corsage and gift. The Union asked Margaret Fairburn, Southern Baptist missionary, to make a crown and present this to Nora Wayne at the Recognition Service.

At the time of the service, the president was out of the country, but he asked to represent him the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Liberia, the Honorable Cecil Dennis.

Senate Panel Considers Liberalized Refugee Bill

WASHINGTON (BP) — Legislation to overhaul drastically U. S. refugee policy met with generally favorable comments from witnesses at a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee here.

The measure, a joint effort by the Carter administration and Congress, would establish the first comprehensive United States refugee resettlement and assistance program. The bill was submitted by the Departments of State, Justice, and Health, Education, and Welfare. Sponsors in Congress are Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Reps. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., and Elizabeth Holtzman, D-N.Y.

The proposal would redefine the term refugee, raise the annual limitation on refugee admissions, set procedure for emergencies, and provide federal support for the resettlement of individual refugees, for up to two years.

Present law requires that a person

show he has fled from a Communist or Communist-dominated country or a country in the Middle East. The proposed revision would define as a refugee any person outside his country unable or unwilling to return to that country because of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Former senator Dick Clark, newly-appointed coordinator for refugee affairs in the State Department, said the change in definition was necessary be-

cause "refugee problems, unfortunately, have become a regular feature of our world."

Clark cited figures which estimate that there are more than two million refugees in Africa, more than 200,000 Indo-Chinese in camps in Southeast Asia, and thousands more in Bangladesh, Cuba, and elsewhere.

The present ceiling of 17,400 refugees admitted annually under regular procedures would be raised to 50,000 by the proposed measure.

Devotional

Characters Around A Collection

By William B. Webb, Pastor
Midway, Meridian

Mark 12:41-44

It was reported that John A. Broadus left his pulpit and walked the aisle with the ushers. He watched every offering placed in the plate. Some were angry.

He returned to the pulpit to say, "My dear people, if you take it to heart that I have seen your offerings this day and know just what sacrifices you have made, remember that the Son of God, your Saviour, goes up the aisle with every usher and sees with his sleepless eyes every cent put into the collection plate by his people."

Giving reflects much about the giver. Your checkbook shows what is important to you. Be assured God knows. Jesus made it his business to know.

I. Jesus Saw

A. He took a seat to see. The offerings were voluntary. A new neighbor said, in his church, they took the offering to the plates. I said, "Are they good stewards?" He said, "No." I concluded that it is no less voluntary nor of lesser dedication if placed in the plate when it is passed.

B. The Lord of the treasury was concerned about the treasure. Actually, he was more concerned about the spirit of those who gave. Jesus is concerned for the whole person, even your stewardship of giving.

II. The Rich Shared

A. They gave much. They are not condemned for being rich or giving much. It would be well for the rich to see their earning ability as a gift from God. A church member in Ohio said that he couldn't do much but he could earn money and he would support his church. The way wealth is earned is important. I wonder if the greedy scribes who devoured widows' houses were present?

B. They had much left. Maybe some earn too much, or perhaps they just aren't giving enough into the Lord's treasury.

III. The Widow Sacrificed

A. Jesus called her poor. We have different definitions of poor. Perhaps Jesus used it of "one who works and still does not have enough for his needs."

B. She gave all she had. She could have kept one of the two coins. One of our college kids said, "My church doesn't love me any more." Her church had failed to send stewardship materials and a pledge card. Contrast that kind of joyful giving with the giving that has to be coerced.

IV. The Disciples Were Schooled In Giving

A. The gift that counts is one that costs. She gave out of want. No gift is too small to count. Some who are rich have learned this joy of giving.

B. The gifts that belong to God should be given to Him. Some loved the Lord and his house in spite of the hypocrisy of the religious leaders. Some folks today develop a dislike for the church leadership and withhold the tithe. Such action hurts more than the church leadership. The biggest hurt is to self.

Conclusion: After the condemnation of the greedy, praying scribes, comes this wonderful lesson from Jesus on the joy of giving. May our Lord give us the spirit of stewardship that will honor him.

New Orleans Seminary Begins Station Operation

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has begun broadcasting continuous Christian programming over its own radio station.

Station WBSN-FM, located on the seminary campus in east New Orleans, broadcasts from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday. It has 10 watts of power and can be received through most of Orleans, Jefferson and St. Bernard parishes.

The station, planned for more than two years, will increase to 250 watts over the next 24 months, according to

station manager Paul Gericke, director of the seminary library where the station is located.

Gericke said the station will serve as both an educational tool to give seminary students experience in programming and station operation, and as a missionary arm of the seminary, providing an outlet for preaching, evangelism and Christian music.

The station was constructed with equipment donated by New Orleans resident Mrs. Henry Thomas. Its operating expenses will be from contributions.

First Youth Conferences Show New Materials

NASHVILLE — A new package of youth ministry information has been utilized at the first four Area Youth Ministry Conferences this year, listing practical helps and focusing on the future of youth ministry needs.

Bob R. Taylor, youth ministry consultant in the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, said approximately 95 percent of the material used in this year's conferences is new.

Taylor said nearly 1,000 persons are expected to attend the 14 conferences, which are held throughout the United States between February and November.

Remaining conferences this spring and summer will be at Arrowhead Lodge, Okla., May 14-18; Ridgecrest, N. C., June 30-July 6; Glorieta, N. M., July 21-27; and Nashville, Aug. 13-17. Conferences will be held this fall in San Antonio, Texas; Myrtle Beach, S. C.; Williamsburg, Va.; Vail, Colo.; and Hot Springs, Ark.

A \$25 deposit per person is required at the time of registration. Registration for the conferences should be sent to Bob R. Taylor, director, Youth Ministry Area Conferences, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

Life and Work Lesson

A Cry For Justice

By Joe N. McKeever
First, Columbus
I Kings 21

If you can read the story of Naboth's vineyard without thinking of R. G. Lee's "Pay Day Some Day," you're a stronger person than I am. It recalls what someone said about the writings of Maclaren. If you consulted him on a certain Scripture, you either used his outline or took another text.

This story is significant for several reasons: (1) it demonstrates the faithfulness of one ordinary man to his God above all else; (2) it reveals the ruthlessness of some people in power who are determined not to serve, but to be catered unto; and (3) it shows the unpopular role often taken by the one who would be God's spokesman.

Notice the three types of character exhibited by the main participants.

The weak and wicked

Ahab personifies the childish adult who demands to have everything his way. His offer to buy or trade for Naboth's vineyard seemed fair enough. He was willing to be generous. His true personality comes through, however, when a common ordinary human being dares say no to him. Ahab pouts, refuses to eat, and withdraws into his shell.

Among the lessons King Ahab had failed to learn earlier in life was how to handle frustration. And even more, to know and love and obey the Word of God.

Ahab probably was not capable of hatching a devious plot to seize the land. But give him his due — he had married one who was. And he cooperated fully in the murder-theft.

While Ahab won the prize for weakness and wickedness, receiving dishonorable mention were the elders of the land who assisted Jezebel in her plot.

The strong and righteous

Naboth is the hero of this Scripture. He is righteous because obeying God's law was uppermost in his heart. And strong in that he dared say so to the king, thereby turning down his offer for the vineyard.

Don't think for a moment that Naboth found it easy to refuse the king. Perhaps others counseled him to look out for number one, to think of his family. You can do more for the Lord alive than dead. The land will be of no use to you dead. And all that sort of thing.

Naboth's testimony is eloquent in its simplicity: "The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee." Two strong points stand out here. First, the land had tremendous value to Naboth. It was more than dirt, rocks, vines, and houses. It was his inheritance from his fathers. This man knew and treasured his roots. He would not exchange his heritage for any amount of money.

Secondly, God forbade the sale of the land.

(See Numbers 27:8-11, 36:7-8, and Leviticus 25:14-28.) Even if God's law was not going to be honored as the law of the land, and regardless whether it made any difference to those in the halls of government, it still reigned supreme in the heart of one Naboth. He would obey the Lord.

The strong and wicked

The name Jezebel has come to stand for any woman who is crafty, devious and evil. The original certainly set a low standard for her successors. Jezebel was strong in that she was creative and innovative, a person of action. She knew her man Ahab and manipulated him by catering to his selfishness.

Alexander Maclaren said nothing moves a weak man so much as the fear of being thought weak. But Jezebel will make her man look like a person of action, devoted to the service of God and the kingdom. (Reflect for a moment on the way of modern rulers to dress wars and crimes against mankind in clothes of high motives and big talk.)

Not only does Jezebel plan a kangaroo trial and then the murder of Naboth, she does it with a flair. Her audacity is amazing, revealing a depth of wickedness fortunately reached by few people.

Notice the accusation against Naboth: treason and blasphemy. That is, speaking evil of both the king and God. There's something for everyone in that charge. The religious will want him stoned for speaking against God, and the secular for speaking against the king.

In some businesses and governments today, there are those singularly gifted in planning devious strategies for wrong-doing. They know every loophole and the price of every man. The burden is on God's people both to speak out against such wickedness, as well as to nurture and train

those little ones entrusted to the church that in adulthood they may use all their powers and gifts to honor the Lord and serve man.

By this time the trial is over. Naboth has been stoned, and the weak-evil king, has possessed the stolen vineyard. Then Ahab meets Elijah.

The Judgment of God (21:17-24) King Ahab got more than a stolen vineyard — he found that his conscience began to echo the accusations of God. Confronted by the prophet Elijah, he asks, "Have you found me, my enemy?" Now, finding a king should not be very difficult. Evidently he is asking, "Have you found me out?" His conscience is begging for relief.

Isn't it interesting what sin does to your relationships? Evil people become your friends because you have more in common with them. And righteous people your enemy because you are miserable in their presence.

Earlier Ahab had called Elijah "the one who troubles Israel" and now names him as his enemy. Obviously, his concept of a friend was one who would assist him in larceny and then keep his mouth shut.

God's judgment was announced in three stages: the death of Ahab, the end of his royal line, and the hideous end of Jezebel.

The Judgment of History (21:25-26) This footnote declares that Ahab was in a class by himself. He had sold himself to do evil in God's eyes, with Jezebel as the primary motivator. He was in fact no different from the wicked pagans who had preceded the Israelites.

How many tragic stories have occurred in history because of an evil wife or husband inciting the other to do terrible deeds. Has anyone ever measured the potential for both good and evil in the husband-wife relationship? The Repentance of Ahab (21:27-29)

So long as there is life, there is room to repent. When Ahab heard God's death sentence, he grieved and repented. And God heard. He postponed the end of his royal line until after Ahab's death. But 22:38 shows that his death was just as Elijah had predicted. The death of Jezebel is recorded in II Kings 9.

In the words of John Lewis Evans, the young man in Alabama condemned to die in the electric chair: "You only have one life. Don't misuse it or you'll regret it forever."

Uniform Lesson

The More Excellent Way

By Larry Kennedy
First, Laurel
I Cor. 12:31-13:13

At the conclusion of the Korean War, 21 American prisoners of war decided to remain in China rather than return home. The group was evenly divided between Caucasian and Negro. The men were from all sections of the United States. A few had been reared in poverty; some were from very wealthy families. Most of them were from middle-class backgrounds. However, almost all of them had one thing in common: they were from broken homes. Could it be that these men were easily brain-washed because that great need for love had never been met in their personal lives? In their formative years, did they ever experience love?

Why does the Bible put so much stress on agape-love? Because one of man's great needs is to love and be loved. The Corinthians had misplaced this great truth. As the church argued over the "gifts" of the Spirit, Paul said, "I will show you a still more excellent way" (I Cor. 12:31).

I. Love is Indispensable

The visiting evangelist for the revival was a fantastic preacher. The people listened to his every word. When he gave the invitation, hundreds came forward to make decisions. However, the host pastor observed that the great preacher was a different person out of the pulpit. At the restaurant, he was rude to the waitress. He appeared to look right through people, never seeing them as persons. The pastor could hear Paul saying, "And if I have the gift of prophecy... but do not have love, it profits me nothing" (I Cor. 13:3).

In our day the measuring stick for ministerial success is baptism, budgets, and buildings. Pulpit committees usually major on the three "Bs." If the pastor can keep the "machinery" lubricated, he will be considered a success. Somewhere down the road pulpits committees are going to wake up and start asking, "Does he know how to love?" He had been walking for an hour, and his journey was only half completed. The snow was deep, and the church was still far away. Stopping to

rest in a doorway, a stranger asked, "Where are you going, son?"

"Going to Dr. Moody's church," replied the boy.

The stranger asked, "Why do you walk past all these other churches to go to his church?"

"Because they really know how to love a fellow down there," shouted the child.

Yes, love is indispensable.

II. Love is Indisputable

Love is more than a feeling; love is something you do. In I Cor. 13:4-7, Paul used 15 verbs to describe love: seven positive and eight negative. It was Paul's way of saying that real love (agape) is indisputable.

"Love is patient." The word "makrothumein" means to be patient while receiving ill treatment from people. In every congregation the devil walks in human flesh. Some people live by a "short-fuse." God's man, however, is slow to anger.

"Love is kind." God's man does not retaliate when attacked. Instead, he seeks out his enemies and shows them kindness.

"Love does not envy." This expression means that a loving person is not pleased when others fail. She is a very attractive girl; however, her self-esteem is so low she really hates herself. In her self-hate, she sees other women as a threat. Her self-hate and envy causes her secretly to rejoice when other attractive women fail. To others who don't know her, she appears to be a fantastic Christian; however, she struggles to keep her head above the water. She does not know how to love.

"Love is not provoked." This expression means a person of love is not known for a fiery temper. How tragic it is that some Christians seem to be pleased that they are "thin skinned and touchy." Do others see you as a "cocked pistol with a hairtrigger?" If they do, then it is impossible for them to see Christ in you.

"Love does not take into account a wrong suffered." The verb "logizetai" is a bookkeeping term. Paul is saying that a person of love does not keep a record of all the people who have hurt him. Love forgives and forgets.

"Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness." A person of love is not pleased or happy to hear of how another person has failed. Love does not rejoice in "spicy" stories concerning the sins of others.

"Love bears all things." This verb literally means "to cover." A person of love seeks to shield those who have been destroyed by sin. Like Jesus in the story of the woman caught in adultery, love says, "I don't condemn you; go and sin no more."

"Love believes all things." This does not mean love is gullible. It does mean that a person of love is inclined to trust rather than to suspect. Love is eager to believe the best about all people.

Yes, agape-love is indisputable.

III. Love is Indestructible

Paul said, "Love never fails" (I Cor. 13:8). Not everyone we seek to love will love us in return; however, love will never fail us. It will always mark us as a child of God.

A few years ago Lawrence Riley decided to minister to people in nursing homes. In one home, he found a woman who refused to speak. She just stared at the ceiling. Her children said she had lost her mind. Every week for two years, Brother Riley stopped to visit with her. During the two years, she never responded. One day he decided to do something different, and he started singing, "Jesus Loves Me." Right in the middle of the hymn, she raised out of bed, threw her arms around Brother Riley's neck and said, "Brother Riley, I know Jesus loves me because you do."

Yes, love is indestructible.

Iuka Triples Annie Armstrong Offering

Becky Walker, President of the W.M.U. in the Iuka Church, challenged the church this year to triple last year's Annie Armstrong Home Mission Offering. The \$1,500 goal has been exceeded. Charles Damper is pastor.